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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona. No. 1-42

RELEASE: Immediate

NEW FAR-WEST RAIL RULE AIDS CHEESE SHIPMENTS

______________________________, State Extension Director, said today that
(Name)
West coast dairy farmers are likely to receive substantial benefits as result of a new ruling permitting stopping-in-transit privileges for shipments of cheese. The new arrangement was granted by rail carriers following representations made by the Transportation Division of the Surplus Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"The readjustment of transit privileges for cheese shippers comes at a particularly opportune time in view of Secretary Wickard's proclamation asking for increase in the production of dairy products to meet Food-for-Freedom needs during 1942," ______________________________ said.
(Name)

Prior to adoption of the new privilege, the lowest tariff rate was based upon carload shipments of 40,000 pounds of cheese. Relatively few consuming centers are of sufficient size to dispose readily of cheese in such quantities.

Heretofore, it was uneconomic to ship less than carload lots because of the higher freight rate assessment. Now shipments can be made to the smaller markets at the lower carload rate. Cheese marketing in far-western territory has been facilitated considerably and farmers supplying milk for this product are benefited.

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No. 2-42

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CUT NEXT WINTER'S FUEL WOOD NOW

Woodland owners who are cutting their fuel wood now for next year's home use and for sale are saving wood and work and may aid in preventing future transportation difficulties with other fuels for domestic purposes during the war period, says ______________________ of the Extension Service.

Tests reveal that green wood has from 10 to 35 percent less heating value than wood cured from 9 months to a year, ________________ says. Even wood seasoned under favorable conditions for only 6 months has an advantage over wood freshly cut.

Well cured wood has the further advantage of easy ignition, rapid burning, uniform heat, and freedom from smoke, and deposits less creosote in the chimney, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service.

In general, reports the Forest Service, a cord of hickory, oak, beech, birch, hard maple, ash, elm, locust, longleaf pine, or cherry is equal in heat value to a ton of coal. Species such as shortleaf pine, western hemlock, red gum, Douglas fir, sycamore, and soft maple require about one and a half cords to equal a ton of coal in fuel value. Two cords of cedar, redwood, poplar, catalpa, cypress, basswood, spruce or white pine are required to equal a ton of coal. Pines give a quicker, hotter fire and are consumed in a shorter time than birch. But birch gives a more intense flame than oak, which is noted for its very steady heat.

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January 3, 1942

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No. 3-42

RELEASE: Immediate

WOODLANDS CAN AID IN NATION'S WAR EFFORT

Home-grown lumber and fuel can aid in America's all-out war effort, says ______________________ of the _____________________ Extension Service.

Using home-grown lumber for repairs and for new buildings on farms to house increased production under the Food for Freedom program helps reduce the transportation load of lumber and other forest products. One of the largest single uses of freight cars and trucks is for such transportation, says the U. S. Forest Service.

________________________ warns farmers, however, that home-grown timber should be well-seasoned before it is used in new construction. Warping and shrinking of green lumber may result in serious defects in the finished structure. Seasoning for about a year is recommended, and the lumber pile should be well stacked, with stickers or slats between freshly sawed boards and timbers so that air can circulate easily. Raising the lumber pile off the ground 6 inches or more with one end elevated aids in ventilating and keeping the pile dry.

In cutting, good practices call for taking out mature trees to give the young straight poles and saplings a chance to grow. Old trees often grow very slowly and may be unprofitable in a high-producing woods, because they use so much soil moisture and crowd younger and thriftier trees around them.

One way to find out how fast a tree is growing is: Cut a small vertical notch with an axe, not over an inch deep, and then count the tree rings. Eight or less rings to an inch means rapid growth, 15 or more rather slow and unsatisfactory. However, as the most profitable lumber grows on the outside of trees 14 inches or more in diameter, old trees putting on from 10 to 12 rings of growth to the inch are usually making good money for the property owner.

Runty trees, wolf trees, deformed trees, and trees showing fire scars, decay, disease, or insect damage should be cut for fuel, fence posts, or other products. Such practice will improve rather than harm the woods.

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In Va., N. C., Ga., Fla.,
Ala., Miss., La., Tex.,
Okla., Ark., Tenn., S. C.

No. 4-42

RELEASE: Immediate

MOISTURE TESTER FOR SEED COTTON DEVISED

Scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture report success in the development of instruments that accurately guage the moisture content of seed cotton and ultimately help ginners to overcome the technical difficulties that accompany the ginning of damp or wet cotton.

A method and several devices for quickly determining the moisture content of seed cotton as delivered in bulk to the gin are explained in a new Department Circular, No, 621, "A Practical Seed Cotton Moisture Tester for Use at Gins." A copy may be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Operating difficulties and economic losses confront gins that handle green, dew-laden, damp, or wet seed cotton. If the cotton is too damp to permit good ginning, the grower likewise suffers a loss because the quality of the ginned lint is lowered.

Artificial drying before ginning has aided in conditioning the cotton, but for the drying to be efficient it is necessary to ascertain the exact moisture content of the cotton. Until special devices and methods were developed, the only test of moisture content was the feel of the cotton. The new instruments are especially designed for use by ginners in conjunction with cotton driers.

The new circular explains how the moisture testers are used and includes illustrated information on their construction.

The instruments have a "nose," a perforated tube, which is inserted into the cotton. The relative humidity is obtained when the air from the cotton is drawn over thermometers housed in the tester. A calculator is utilized to facilitate easy and quick reading.

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January 8, 1942

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In all States

No. 5-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARM YOUTH
LAUNCH VICTORY PROGRAM

Launching of a seven-point Victory Program by ________________ (State) farm boys and girls through organized 4-H Clubs was announced here today by __________, Director of the State Extension Service. Basis of the program was laid down in a discussion of civilian defense at a conference last week in Washington between 4-H Club leaders in the Department of Agriculture and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The program calls for (1) interpreting to the community the four freedoms: Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear; (2) making every effort to produce and conserve needed foods in 4-H Club projects; (3) saving for victory - prevention of waste, collecting scrap metal, burlap, old paper, etc.; (4) developing individual and community health; (5) learning useful technical and mechanical skills and volunteering for civilian defense work; (6) practicing the democratic procedure; and (7) understanding the social and economic forces at work in this country through discussion groups and other organized community activities.

The program is a wartime revision of a seven-point program which the ________________ (Number) 4-H Club members and the ____________ (Number) of local 4-H Club leaders- ________________ (State) have been carrying forward for the last year and a half.

In commenting on the program, Mrs. Roosevelt put in a strong plea for activities which develop a better understanding of democracy and produce better health and nutrition among young people. She said that what the young people are thinking and deciding today is just what the world is going to be later.

Mrs. Roosevelt said that she could never separate education from nutrition and medical care and was pleased at the emphasis on health and nutrition and understanding of democratic ideals stressed in the 4-H Club program.

Mrs. Roosevelt urged the million and a half 4-H Club members over the country to take as a goal the bringing of the 4-H Victory Program to those young people who are not reached by any rural organization and who, perhaps, need it most, thus giving all young people an opportunity to feel that they are a part of the Nation's plan to win the war.

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January 10, 1942

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In Va., N. C., S. C.,
Ky., Tenn., and Ga.

No. 6-42

RELEASE: Immediate

CLEAN PACKHOUSES NOW TO
CUT TOBACCO MOTH DAMAGE

_________________ tobacco growers can reduce tobacco moth damage to next year's crop if they give their packhouses a thorough cleaning this winter or spring before the insects come out of hibernation, according to __________.

Entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture point out that the small pink worms which hatch from eggs laid by tobacco moths (candleflies), destroy some of the finest quality tobacco in the flue-cured tobacco belts every year. These moths develop in the packhouse during the year or gain entrance after tobacco is stored.

Most packhouses in infested areas offer favorable conditions for worms and moths to develop and survive throughout the year. As soon as cured tobacco is brought in from the barns, the moths in the packhouse lay eggs on it. Worms hatch and feed on scrap and trash tobacco, and on remnants of grain and other feedstuffs. They find shelter in tobacco sticks, old cloth and bags.

If packhouses are thoroughly cleaned at this time of year, infestation already present can be greatly reduced. All trash, particularly that containing tobacco and grains, should be destroyed. Cracks and crevices in walls and floors should be cleaned, and old materials of no value removed and destroyed.

Loosely constructed packhouses and those in bad repair are difficult to clean and offer little protection from moths coming in from other sources. As far as possible, packhouses should be repaired and all openings of any size closed. A clean, well-constructed packhouse is good insurance against loss of a valuable part of the tobacco crop, __________________ says.

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January 15, 1942

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In Fla., Ga., S. C., N. C.,
Va., Tenn., Ky., Md.

No. 7-42

TOBACCO BLUE MOLD CONTROL HELPS TO CONSERVE CLOTH

Tobacco growers can conserve supplies of fertilizer and "tobacco cloth" this spring by growing more plants in smaller beds, tobacco specialists at the ______________________ pointed out this week. Following appearance of blue mold disease in 1932, growers generally doubled their plant bed areas with a corresponding increase in cotton cloth and fertilizer requirements.

Two blue mold control methods that are practical and effective have been developed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and State experiment stations working in cooperation. One method involves the use of "PDB gas" (paradichlorobenzene), and the other method employs a copper-oxide spray.

If these control methods are used, growers can safely depend on smaller plant beds. Information on blue mold control is given in Farmers' Bulletin 1799 and Leaflet 209 of the Department, and excellent publications have also been issued in several States.

However, tobacco growers who expect to use either the gas or spray treatment this year for blue mold control will do well to make their plans now and place their orders for the necessary materials, so that manufacturers can be advised as to requirements. It is not certain that there will be adequate supplies of all materials.

Growers expecting to use gas treatment should lay their beds out if they are not yet sown -- so that the same heavy muslin can be used to treat 2 beds with a minimum of wear and tear. Then beds should be tightly constructed to conserve PDB.

Growers planning to use spray treatment will probably not be confronted with a shortage of spray materials provided orders are placed early. The situation with respect to new spray pumps, however is not so certain. Since there are now a good many small sprayers in the tobacco areas, it will be well to check and repair them, providing them with new washers, hose, etc., where needed. Also some barrel outfits being used by a single grower could take care of the needs of neighbors.

Finally, there are many reliable men in the Southeast who have had much experience with blue mold control. Growers who expect to use control measures for the first time will be wise if they obtain their advice and place dependence on the PDB and benzol gas treatments or the copper oxide-oil spray treatment. These treatments have been proved effective, and, therefore, growers are advised against trying out new, unproved remedies.

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January 17, 1942

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In N.Y., Mich., New England States,
Wis., and Minn.

No. 8-42

RELEASE: Immediate

REDSTAR, A NEW STRAWBERRY VARIETY, PRODUCES LATE CROP

_________________ strawberry growers, who want their crops to ripen late in the season when there is a good demand from tourists, can delay harvests by using one or more of the new late varieties, says _______________.

He suggests they try the new Redstar variety, introduced last year by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This variety produces large, and highly flavored berries, and its foliage is resistant to leaf spot and leaf scorch. It is later than any other standard variety.

Planting in clay soils rather than sandy soils, on north slopes instead of south slopes, and mulching the plants well with straw are cultural practices that will delay ripening. Ripening is also delayed about 1 day for each increase of 100 feet in elevation at which the strawberries are grown. For example, strawberries planted at an elevation of 1,500 feet would be ready for market about 15 days later than those planted under similar growing conditions but at sea level.

By selecting a late variety, such as Redstar, planting in a heavy soil, and where possible, on the north slope of a high field, and by mulching the plants with straw, a northern grower can have strawberries to market throughout July and even in August.

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In New England States, N. Y., Pa., N. J.,
Del., Md., Va., N. C., S. C., Ga., Fla.,
Ala., Miss., La., Ark., Mo., Ind., Ohio,
Ky., Ill., Wis., and Tenn.

No. 9-42

RELEASE: Immediate

NEW BULLETIN EXPLAINS CONTROL OF DISEASES IN FARM WOODLANDS

With proper woodland management, most decay and other fungus defects in eastern timber are preventable, says ______________________. He makes reference to Farmers' Bulletin 1887, Reducing Losses in Tree Diseases in Eastern Forests and Farm Woodlands, just issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and points out that owners of woodland will find good management pays more than usual because of the need for lumber and other forest products in the war effort.

Infection of white pine by blister rust can be avoided by taking out currants and gooseberries. Rots in the lower part of the trunk of both pines and hardwoods can be prevented, to a large extent, by elimination of fire, careful logging, controlled grazing of woodlands, and by selective cutting practices that enable the best trees in the stand to compete successfully with poorer ones.

Oak stands originating from sprouts can be kept largely free from butt rot that enters from old stumps if thinning is done before the trees are 15 years old. Sprouts that originate more than an inch above the ground line or from large stumps are most likely to be affected by butt rot, and these can be easily recognized and eliminated in stands up to 15 years of age.

Loss from rots in the upper part of the trunk can be kept at a minimum by preventing the breaking off of large limbs and the scarring of trunks when felling neighboring trees, and by cutting trees before they are too old. For example, balsam fir should be cut before 70 to 80 years of age, but white oak, if without serious wounds, can be left until it is well over 150 years. Individual trees most likely to develop serious decay because of wounds can be spotted and cut early.

Many diseases cause distortion of the trunk and branches, and some reduce growth through killing leaf tissue. Still others kill trees outright. The more important of these diseases are described, together with their control, in the new Farmers' Bulletin.

Losses from decay and other fungus defects do not cease when trees are cut. Logs and piled lumber are susceptible both to decay and sap stain, the latter a fungus-caused discoloration of the sapwood, usually blue in color. Sawing logs promptly after cutting, stacking lumber in well-ventilated piles, and where necessary, dipping in stain-preventing chemicals, usually insure bright, sound lumber at the end of the seasoning period.

________________ explains the basis for recommendations aimed at reducing timber defects in farm woodlands by quoting from Farmers' Bulletin 1887:

(more)

"Farm woods and other heavily used small holdings are in the peculiar position of being particularly susceptible to diseases, especially rots, and yet particularly suited to their control. In some sections wood lots have been burned frequently to improve grazing conditions, thus scarring the butts of the trees and allowing rot to start. The trampling that accompanies heavy grazing wears the soil away from the more exposed roots, resulting in root wounds that let in rot. Cutting hardwoods while still young for small products such as fuel, posts, etc., results in most of the new growth being stump sprouts, which are especially liable to decay. Farm woods can be our healthiest woods if protected from fire and grazing, because the frequent light cuts the farmer makes to fill his current needs of fuel, posts, and other small products, make it possible for him to materially improve his growing stock by eliminating defective trees and trees of species that are likely to become defective early in life, such as scarlet oak and quaking aspen. The best trees can be left to produce sawlogs, cross-ties, poles, veneer bolts, or other larger products. His woods are like money in the bank. How he treats his woods determines whether he will get a high rate of interest for growing quality timber or a low rate because of a high percentage of defective trees."

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January 21, 1942.

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Conn., R. I., N. H., Vt., and NORTHERN
HALF of Ill., Iowa, Ind., and Maine.

No. 10-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARMERS TO TRY MIDLAND, PROMISING NEW RED CLOVER

A promising recruit in the Food-for-Freedom campaign this year is the new, high-yielding, disease-resistant Midland red clover, introduced last year by cooperative work of several State agricultural experiment stations, crop-improvement associations, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. In the northern half of the red-clover belt, it produces more hay, and more nitrogen is left in the soil for food and feed crops that follow. Increasing nitrogen in soil by use of efficient legumes is more important this year because of a possible fertilizer shortage.

In widely scattered tests throughout the upper part of the red-clover belt, Midland has produced from a quarter of a ton to a ton more hay per acre than seed of varieties commonly used. Because of special resistance to anthracnose, it greatly lessens possibility of crop failure and waste of seed, labor, and land use is reduced.

Seed of the new strain is available commercially for the first time this year. Officials are suggesting that farmers try enough seed to plant 4 or 5 acres of their field this year and compare the crop with that from standard varieties. As Midland seed looks like any other red-clover seed, the only way to be sure of getting it is to buy certified seed. There is no other source. County agents and State extension service agronomists will be glad to advise farmers of sources of certified seed.

Midland seed is now selling for 2 to 3 cents a pound more than commercial red-clover seed, but only about 10 pounds are needed to seed an acre. Thus an extra investment of 20 to 30 cents an acre may bring an added return of as much as a ton of good hay, plus insurance against complete loss.

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January 21, 1942.

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In All States

No. 11-42

RELEASE: Immediate

VENTILATE BROODER HOUSE TO PREVENT GASSING THE CHICKS

Enough carbon monoxide (the gas that kills motorists who start their autos in closed garages) may accumulate in a poorly ventilated brooder house, heated by a wood, coal, or oil burning stove, to kill every baby chick or turkey poult in a short time, says ______________. Protecting chicks from death by carbon monoxide is more important this year than ever, because of war needs for eggs and poultry.

Studies by the U. S. Department of Agriculture indicate that many thousands of chicks are killed by monoxide poisoning every brooding season although the deaths are sometimes attributed to other causes.

Carbon monoxide chick losses are often highest on cold, stormy nights, when windows and ventilating vents are closed to protect chicks from cold. As the burning flame in the brooder stove consumes oxygen, combustion becomes less complete causing an accumulation of carbon monoxide fumes. Soot collects, increasing production of the deadly gas.

At first the chicks become uneasy, go into a drowsy stupor, their breathing becomes labored and their gait wobbly. As gas poisoning progresses, they appear chilly, gasp, fall, lie on their sides with heads thrown back, and generally die in spasms. If these symptoms are noted, and the poultryman suspects carbon monoxide poison, he should remove the birds to fresh air immediately, ______________ advises. Even acutely affected birds may recover in a few minutes. However, they should not be brought out of a warm brooder house into the cold air, but rather into a warm room, free of carbon monoxide.

Best insurance against chick losses by carbon monoxide is good no-draft ventilation through the brooder house, and a brooder stove that burns fuel efficiently, he points out.

Although electric chick brooders do not generate carbon monoxide, they may gas the chicks in another way and cause serious losses. Tests by the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the University of Nebraska show that carbon dioxide (the gas exhaled by breathing chicks, man, and animals) may concentrate under chick-brooding hovers more than 3 feet wide to a point where it is harmful to chicks, unless some type of forced ventilation is provided.

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United States Department of Agriculture

In All States.

No. 12-42

RELEASE: Immediate

LOSSES ON EGGS TO BRITAIN NO GREATER THAN IN THE U. S.

Shell eggs, produced on United States farms, are getting to Great Britain with losses in transit amounting to no more than normal losses in domestic shipping, according to a report from W. D. Termohlen, Chief of the Surplus Marketing Administration Poultry Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, to State Extension Service Director ______________________.

This was indicated by a recent report to the British House of Commons by Major Lloyd-George, Undersecretary to the Minister of Foods, in which he stated losses amount to no more than 5.3 percent.

"These losses," Mr. Termohlen said,"are due largely to spoilage and breakage and compare favorably with normal losses in shell eggs shipped from producing areas to consumers throughout the United States. Domestic losses range usually from 2 to 5 percent.

"This should be good news to the American poultryman who has wanted to know whether his eggs were reaching Great Britain without severe loss and in condition to be of use to the English people. Shipment of eggs under Lend-Lease has enabled the British Government to increase allotments to stores and thus supply consumers with a greater number than they had previously or would have through the rationing system.

"Shipping losses never averaged more than 10 percent in early Lend-Lease shipments to Great Britain. Reduction of losses to the present low level is directly the result of the adoption of improved packing, handling, and shipping methods following a thorough survey."

Shell eggs destined for Lend-Lease shipment must be fully candled and of "export" grade, which permits no losses in the cases at the outset. The eggs must be packed in dry, new cases, and the cases bound with metal straps or wire.

Due to improved packing and handling methods on this side, plus the fact that no shell eggs will be shipped without refrigeration after the coming of warmer weather, it is probable that actual losses will be reduced to the minimum of normal domestic shipping losses.

Eggs for Lend-lease shipment to Great Britain are purchased in the shell and in frozen and dried forms. Lend-Lease shipments of eggs from April 29 to December 1, 1941, totaled more than 24,200,000 dozen shell eggs, nearly 13,900,000 pounds of dried eggs, and 37,200,000 pounds of frozen eggs.

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Del., N. J., Pa., Maine, and SOUTHERN
HALF of Ill., Ind., Iowa, and Ohio.

No. 13-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARMERS TO TRY CUMBERLAND, PROMISING NEW RED CLOVER

A promising recruit in the Food-for-Freedom campaign this year is the new, high-yielding, disease-resistant Cumberland red clover, introduced last year by cooperative work of several State agricultural experiment stations, crop-im improvement associations, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. In the southern half of the red-clover belt, it produces more hay, and more nitrogen is left in the soil for food and feed crops that follow. Increasing nitrogen in the soil by use of efficient legumes is more important this year because of a possible fertilizer shortage.

In widely scattered tests throughout the lower part of the red-clover belt, Cumberland has produced from a quarter of a ton to a ton more hay per acre than seed of varieties commonly used. Because of special resistance to southern anthracnose, it greatly lessens possibility of crop failure and waste of seed, labor, and land use is reduced.

Seed of the new strain is available commercially for the first time this year. Officials are suggesting that farmers try enough seed to plant 4 or 5 acres of their field this year and compare the crop with that from standard varieties. As Cumberland seed looks like any other red-clover seed, the only way to be sure of getting it is to buy certified seed. There is no other source. County agents and State extension service agronomists will be glad to advise farmers of sources of certified seed.

Cumberland seed is now selling for 2 to 3 cents a pound more than commercial red-clover seed, but only about 10 pounds are needed to seed an acre. Thus an extra investment of 20 to 30 cents an acre may bring an added return of as much as a ton of good hay, plus insurance against complete loss.

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January 21, 1942

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In East and West North Central States No. 14-42

RELEASE: Immediate

READ THE SEED LABELS BEFORE YOU PURCHASE

Pay more attention to your seed purchases this year. Read the labels on the containers before buying, and plant the varieties that State Experiment Stations have approved for your locality. This advice comes from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the ____________________ Agricultural Extension Service which are urging increased production of the Foods-for-Freedom.

It has recently come to the attention of State and Federal seed officials that a variety of soybeans inferior in oil content is being offered for sale throughout the Middle West. And Argentine alfalfa, not suitable for planting except in mild climates, is being advertised in some localities as "hardy." Also, it is a mistake to plant northern red clover in the southern part of the red clover belt. Now is not the time to waste productive land and labor by planting unadapted seed.

The Department is cooperating with State officials in safeguarding the proper use of the Nation's seed supplies. The Federal Seed Act, administered by the Department's Marketing Service, and seed laws in the States require seed to be completely and correctly labeled. But correct labeling is ineffective unless attention is paid to the labels. And a poor crop will result if the seeds that are planted are not adapted to the locality.

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January 22, 1942 (89-42)

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In All States

No. 15-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARMERS CAN HELP WAR EFFORT
BY CONSERVING BALING WIRE

Each year farmers throw away enough used baling wire to build three mighty battleships or 3,000 medium tanks, says ________________. In other words, much of the 100,000 tons of 14 and 15-gauge wire used on the Nation's farms each year for baling straw and forage crops is allowed to rust away in a scrap heap after removal from the bales.

With a little care, he points out, much of this wire could be used a second time, not only for baling economy, but as an important conservation measure and a direct contribution to the national war effort. Farmers might find a situation in which new baling wire cannot be obtained.

______________________ suggests that baling wire be removed either by untying the knot with pliers, or by cutting the wire as close to the knot as possible so that it may be used over again. Short ties may be used again by making shorter, lighter weight bales, or they may be spliced to full length. Baling wire hung over a fence or piled in a heap outside the machine shed, may rust and become unfit for re-use. Rusting can be prevented by wiping each tie with oil, and storing in a dry place.

There is still another reason why livestock farmers will want to use care in opening baled hay. When the wire is broken or cut, short pieces may fall into the hay and be swallowed by the livestock. Veterinarians say that many fine cattle, and other livestock as well, are killed every year by pieces of baling wire that pierce vital internal organs.

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January 22, 1942

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United States Department of Agriculture

In All States

No. 16-42

RELEASE: Immediate

TREAT EWES AND BUCKS NOW TO PROTECT LAMB CROP FROM WORMS

Now is the time for ____________ sheepmen to treat their worm-infested bucks and ewes with phenothiazine to prevent infestation from spreading to the spring lamb crop, according to ________________.

A wet fall in many sections of the State has favored development of internal parasites this winter, so that treatment is more important this year than it has been in the past; especially so, ______________ points out, because more wool, lamb, and mutton are needed to meet Food-for-Freedom production goals.

Phenothiazine is being recommended in preference to copper sulphate, under most conditions, because it is effective in ridding sheep of both stomach worms and worms that live in the intestines, whereas copper sulphate is effective against only the stomach worms, according to U. S. Department of Agriculture experiments.

_________________ suggests treating the breeding flock now, and again in the spring before lambing begins. It is important that the spring dose of phenothiazine be given in the feed so that ewes soon to lamb will not be injured by rough handling. About one ounce (25 grams) administered either in capsule form, as a drench, or mixed in the ground feed is the usual dose for adult sheep. Lambs weighing less than 60 pounds require only about 15 grams. Phenothiazine should be administered under supervision of a veterinarian.

Although phenothiazine has been known to be toxic to oversensitive horses, it is perfectly safe when given to sheep in the doses recommended. Following treatment, however, the urine of sheep turns red on exposure to air. To avoid staining the wool and possible reduction of fleece value, ___________ suggests that treated sheep be kept on thick bedding, or on ground where the urine will be absorbed quickly.

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United States Department of Agriculture

★ FEB 13 1942 ★
U.S. Department of Agriculture

In All States

No. 17-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FIT HORSES NOW TO GET THEM IN SHAPE FOR SPRING WORK

_______________ farmers, who are preparing for the biggest crop year in history, can get more horsepower out of their farm teams this spring if they get winter-idle horses and mules ready for heavy work during a special fitting period, says __________________.

Most farmers carry their workstock through the winter season as economically as possible, give them the run of stubble, stalk, and pasture fields, but feeding little if any grain. Though such treatment is usually satisfactory during extended periods of idleness, as the work season approaches this system of feeding and management gradually must be changed.

At the start of the fitting period - that is, about 1 month before heavy work is to begin - the amount of coarse roughage in the ration is reduced, a good-quality hay substituted, and light grain feeding begun. Gradually increase amount of grain and hay in the ration so that the animal is getting about a pound of grain and a pound of good hay for each hundred pounds of its body weight by the time light work begins. Animals that come through the winter thin and in poor condition will require even more good hay and grain before the work season begins.

The Department of Agriculture says that corn and oats are generally the best grains for feeding workstock during the fitting and working season, but barley or wheat may be substituted if it is rolled, ground, or crushed. Wheat bran and linseed meal are desirable additions to the ration, especially for horses and mules in poor condition. In the South, about 1 pound of cottonseed meal and some cottonseed hulls may be fed as supplements to farm-grown grain and roughage.

Timothy alone or timothy and clover is probably the best hay to feed in many localities, although prairie or Johnson grass may be used as well as some of the legumes such as clover, alfalfa, cowpeas, or soybeans up to about half the total of the roughage allowance.

Besides the better feeding practices outlined by ____________, he points out that farmers should remember:

1. That it is necessary to condition the horse and mule for hard work by gradually increasing the severity and amount of daily work as the fitting period progresses.

2. The animal's feet must be kept sound and serviceable by regular trimming or shoeing.

(more)

3. Use of multiple-hitches may increase the amount of work done daily and will reduce man-labor requirements.

4. Not to use heavy breaching harness for field work when no backing is required.

5. That sweat pads are a poor way to make a collar fit -- they are hot and insanitary.

6. Not to work a slow horse or mule with a fast one -- match your teams for better work.

7. To check the animal's teeth to be sure they are in condition to chew grain and hay.

8. To warm up the animals gradually at the beginning of each work day, and to water, groom, and salt them regularly.

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January 26, 1942

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No. 18-42

RELEASE: Immediate

GOOD MANAGEMENT PROTECTS CALVES FROM COCCIDIOSIS

Grouping calves according to age, daily removal of manure, and general sanitation are three of the most effective ways to prevent cattle coccidiosis in ____________ herds, according to ____________________. Protecting beef and dairy calves from disease is especially important now that more meat and milk are needed for wartime food.

Coccidiosis is caused by a parasite that gets into the intestines. Symptoms are severe irritation, bloody scours, and diarrhea. Infected animals have poor appetites, become weak and thin, and stand with backs arched and sides tucked in. In severe cases death follows 3 or 4 days after appearance of marked symptoms, and sometimes pneumonia develops when resistance of the animals is lowered.

Calves 1 to 3 months of age kept in crowded stalls are commonly affected, because disease germs are spread by manure from infected animals. The germs, however, must develop in the manure for 2 to 6 days before they can infect other animals, so daily removal of manure and use of clean bedding is particularly effective in preventing serious outbreaks.

Whenever possible, calves should be isolated in individual box stalls, but when this is not practical Department of Agriculture officials recommend separation into the following age groups: (1) New-born calves up to 3 weeks; (2) calves 3 to 6 weeks; and (3) calves 6 weeks to 3 months of age.

A strong solution of lye or bichloride of mercury applied to floors and walls with a stiff brush helps to kill infection already present. When the disease appears in beef yearlings confined in a wet, muddy feedlot at the end of the grazing season, frequent changes of feedlot site and removal and isolation of sick animals are about the only practical measures that can be taken. Sick animals may be fed small amounts of soft feeds at frequent intervals, kept warm and quiet, and when indicated by a veterinarian, treated with an intestinal antiseptic.

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January 26, 1942

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RELEASE: Immediate

DOUBLE CHECK CULLING SYSTEM HELPS INCREASE YIELD OF WOOL

A system of check and double check for culling sheep on the basis of wool length and fleece weight may be used by __________ sheepmen to increase wool yields, according to ______________. Now that the country is at war, more wool than ever is needed to meet military and civilian requirements.

This culling system, effectively used by sheepmen in New Mexico, is based on the fact that there is a direct relationship between length of staple and production of clean wool per sheep. By classifying both ewes and rams according to length of staple and production of clean wool, the best can be mated to the best for production of lambs that produce high wool yields.

Explaining the double check culling method, Bureau of Animal Industry specialists say that sheep are first moved through in a long narrow chute where wool length is quickly examined at a spot 2 inches behind the hip bone. Those having a wool length of 2 inches or more are given one mark on the head with chalk, while those with shorter wool length are given a different mark.

The sheep are then run through a cutting chute, where they are separated according to grade by the chalk mark on the head. Sheep in each grade are sheared separately, the fleece is weighed, and then the sheep are marked again according to fleece weight. Those not shearing up to the desired weight are put into the lower grade along with sheep of short wool length. Those in the lower grade may be culled, and those in the higher grade are saved for replacement.

In one large flock of sheep culled by this system in New Mexico last year, the good ewes averaged $4.26 worth of wool per head and medium ewes, $3.43; but the poor ones produced only $2.72 worth of wool per head.

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United States Department of Agriculture
In Northeastern States including Maine. No. 20-42

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RELEASE - Immediate

PEA APHID NO THREAT TO POTATOES

Maine potato growers need have no fear of injury to their potatoes by the pea aphid moving from pea and clover fields to the potatoes, says W. H. White, in charge, Division of Truck Crop and Garden Insect Investigations, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

White reports that a special study conducted by research specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station during the summer of 1941 in Aroostook County, Maine, to determine the source of various kinds of aphids which attack potatoes and spread potato diseases showed that the pea aphid was not among the kinds found on potatoes.

The pea aphid breeds on clover, alfalfa, peas and other legumes, but does not move to the potato, as do the aphids which attack potatoes.

The different species of aphids taken from potatoes during the survey were the grean peach aphid, buckthorn aphid, potato aphid, and the foxglove aphid. Adults of green-peach aphid were more abundant by about one-third than any of the other species. The buckthorn and potato aphids were about equal in numbers, but only a few foxglove aphids were found.

These aphids overwinter in the egg stage on different plants. For example, the green-peach aphid overwinters on wild plum, buckthorn aphid on buckthorn, potato aphid on wild roses, and foxglove aphid on foxglove.

After hatching in spring, aphids multiply on their overwintering hosts and then move to potatoes and weeds such as wild mustard, wild kale, and lambsquarters, where they continue to breed. They also move from these weeds to potatoes later during the summer.

Pea aphids were taken from both peas and clover, the latter being the plant on which they deposit their eggs for overwintering and on which they breed in the spring before moving to peas.

The survey was made by taking samples of aphids from 26 fields planted to peas, potatoes, and clover. Two types of fields included in the study were adjacent fields of peas, potatoes, and clover, and adjacent fields of potatoes and clover with peas not growing within a mile. Collections from the three crops were made before and on two occasions following harvest of the peas.

The fields used in the study were located near Houlton, Staceyville, Masardis, Presque Isle, Mars Hill, and Van Buren, Maine.

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January 30, 1942 (122-42)

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In Ill., Wis., Ind., Ohio, Mich.,
Pa., Del., N. J., Mass., R. I.,
Maine, N. H., N. Y., Vt., Conn.,
Va., N. C., and Md.

No. 21-42

RELEASE: Immediate

CORN BORER IS ONE FOREIGN INVADER FARMERS CAN LICK

______________________ farmers can aid in defeating the attack of at least one foreign invader -- the European corn borer -- this summer, if they get every bit of cornstalk and stubble fed to livestock, plowed under, or otherwise destroyed before late spring, says ________________________.

Larvae of the corn borer overwinter in corn-crop residue, in thick-stemmed weeds, or in other plant material growing near corn. In late May and June, the larvae change into pupae and then into adult moths that emerge to lay eggs on young corn plants. Borers hatch and tunnel into the stems of corn plants causing considerable damage. In areas heavily infested, corn borers may reduce yields by 50 percent or more.

Entomologists of the Department of Agriculture point out that the most effective control is to destroy the borers overwintering in corn-plant residue. This may be done: (1) By clean, deep plowing of stalk and stubble, and pulverizing the soil surface to close all cracks and crevices without dragging buried residue back up to the surface; (2) by feeding, chopping, shredding, ensiling, or burning all cornstalks; and (3) thorough trampling of cornstalks in the feed lots by cattle, or removing untrampled stalks from the lots so they can be plowed under or burned.

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January 30, 1942

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In All States

No. 22-42

RELEASE: Immediately

TREAT SHEEP NOW TO PROTECT NATION'S "CATGUT" SUPPLY

Phenothiazine and pasture sanitation can help ___________ sheepmen protect their sheep and the Nation's "catgut" supply from the destructive nodular worm, says ___________________.

Catgut (made from the intestines of sheep) is used for surgical sutures, and is needed in wartime to sew up wounds. Intestines are also used for sausage casing. When nodular worms get into the intestines of sheep, they cause pea-sized knots or nodules to form in the intestinal wall, and intestines so affected are useless for either medical suture material or for casing.

Meat packers report that losses caused by nodular worm to intestines amount to several million dollars each year. Such loss may be especially serious now because of difficulty in obtaining intestines for these purposes from other sheep-raising countries.

Infested sheep pass eggs of the nodular worm in their manure and these develop in about a week to the infective stage. Sheep eating grass upon which these worms have climbed, become infected. Besides forming nodules on the intestines, the worms often cause other irritations, intestinal ulcers, and diarrhea.

Infected sheep may lose weight, soil their wool by diarrhea, and the wool may become dry, yellow, and irregular. The disease can be recognized in the living animal by feeling the pea-sized nodules in the lower part of the large intestines with a finger.

Phenothiazine is the most effective drug for removing adult nodular worms from the intestines, and has the added advantage of removing other parasitic intestinal and stomach worms at the same time, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. However, young worms inside the nodules cannot be killed by phenothiazine or other drugs.

The greatest number of adult worms is present in the intestines of sheep in early spring. Therefore, if ewes are treated with phenothiazine a month before lambing, sheepmen can prevent much of the infection from being carried over in breeding stock to the new lamb crop. Bucks should be similarly treated. In addition, clean the premises and stalls where lambs are dropped, and remove the manure from pens at least twice weekly.

Since young worms encased in nodules are protected from the drug treatment, some infection may carry over which becomes the source of further infection to the flock. By shifting the flock to a new pasture before the old one has become heavily infested, the disease can be kept under control. The contaminated pasture may then be used for other animals (except cattle and goats).

(more)

Phenothiazine is best given in the feed to ewes soon to lamb so they will not be injured by rough handling. About 25 grams is the recommended dose, and they can be fed the following formula in groups of five:

Phenothiazine	125 grams	(about 4½ ounces)
Molasses	125 cc.	(about 4 fluid ounces)
Water	100 cc.	(about 3 fluid ounces)
Oats and bran	4 pounds	

Although phenothiazine has been known to be toxic to oversensitive horses it is perfectly safe when given to sheep in the doses recommended. Following treatment, however, the urine of sheep turns red on exposure to air. To avoid staining the wool and possible reduction of fleece value, _______________ suggests that treated sheep be kept on thick bedding, or on ground where the urine will be absorbed quickly. Phenothiazine treatment should be under supervision of a veterinarian.

More detailed information on control of nodular worm is available free from the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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January 31, 1942

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In All States

No. 23-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FILLER FOR EXTENSION EDITORS

The Los Angeles, California, laboratory of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering has found that the amount of vitamin C retained in canned orange juice depends on the amount of time that elapses between picking and canning. Tests by that laboratory show further that the higher the storage temperature of canned juice, the more rapid is the loss of vitamin C.

* * * * * * * * *

The U. S. Department of Agriculture Cereal Laboratory has made very satisfactory breads with 15 percent wheat germ and 85 percent clear white wheat flour. Such breads contain most of the vitamins of whole wheat bread and about 70 to 80 percent of the minerals. According to the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, a wheat germ bread would go far toward meeting nutritional ideals as set up by the National Nutrition Conference.

* * * * * * * * *

As much as 50 gallons of home-made maple sirup is made and used by many farm families a year, thus freeing them from buying its sugar equivalent. Value of this "crop" in diversified farming and for subsistence purposes is often underestimated. Harvesting and processing are both done on the farm during a period of the year when labor is not needed elsewhere.

* * * * * * * * *

The Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering has demonstrated that as much as 2 tons of starch per acre can be produced in the South from sweetpotatoes, as compared with about 1.5 tons of starch per acre by corn in the Middle West. Considering that corn yields are considerably less in the South than they are in the Middle West, investigators report that sweetpotatoes are definitely more efficient than corn as starch-makers in the South. Studies are now in progress to find a cheap means of drying or otherwise preserving sweetpotatoes so that they can be used for feeding throughout the year.

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January 31, 1942

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In All States: No. 24-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARMERS CAN MAKE GRASS SILAGE WITHOUT USING MOLASSES OR OTHER PRESERVATIVES

_______________ farmers may not be able to get ample supplies of molasses or other preservatives for making grass and legume silage this year because of wartime demands for most of these materials, but they can make such silage successfully without any preservative at all if they allow forage to wilt to a lower-than-usual moisture content before ensiling, says _______________________.

Many farmers think grass or legume silage will spoil unless molasses or some other preservative is used, ________________ points out. Tests carried on for several years by the Department of Agriculture, however, have proved that high quality grass and legume silage can be made without preservatives if material ensiled contains not more than 68 percent moisture. Success with this method depends upon fine chopping ($\frac{1}{4}$-inch length), a tight silo, and topping off with about 3 feet of heavy green material.

Grass silage develops a bad odor only when two conditions -- high moisture and low acidity -- are present at the same time. If moisture content is high and acidity also high (as is the case when a preservative is used), the silage keeps well. Similarly, if moisture content and acidity are both low (as when no preservative is used but forage is allowed to wilt), silage also keeps well.

Advantages of wilted silage are: (1) Lower in cost because no preservative is needed; (2) no surplus of moisture to cause leakage that carries away part of forage nutrients and damages concrete of silo and metal parts; and (3) less pressure on silo walls.

Biggest trick in making low-moisture grass silage is to know when forage has the right moisture content for ensiling without a preservative. As a general rule, if grasses, legumes, or small grains are harvested during a spell of dry weather, they may be put in the silo as soon after mowing as possible. Otherwise, legumes and immature grasses should be allowed to wilt about 2 hours on a good drying day, or longer on a poor drying day. Grasses cut after the blooming stage and small grains need not be wilted.

If the weather does not permit wilting the forage, dry hay can be chopped into the silo along with the green crop in order to reduce the moisture. Ordinarily 1 ton of chopped hay to 8 tons of green crop will be enough, but if the crop is very moist because of immaturity or rain, hay should be added at the rate of 1 ton to 6 tons of green material. When weather clears so the crop can be wilted addition of hay may be discontinued.

A more accurate method for determining the right moisture content is to make a simple, inexpensive forage moisture tester according to plans available free from the State extension dairyman or from the Bureau of Dairy Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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February 5, 1942 (154-42)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In all States. No. 25-42

RELEASE: Immediate.

GILTS THAT FAIL TO BREED WILL PAY BEST AS PORK

__________________pork producers can make more efficient use of their hog-raising facilities and feedstuffs by marketing gilts that fail to get with pig after several attempts have been made to breed them, says __________________________________. Efficient swine raising is more important now than ever because of the need for pork and lard as wartime food.

Tests by the U. S. Department of Agriculture with 385 sows in the Beltsville (Md.) Research Center herd show that the sow that fails to conceive when bred as a gilt is more likely to fail again when rebred the following season. In these tests, only about 65 percent of the sows that failed to "catch" when bred as gilts produced litters when rebred the following season. However, 82 percent of the sows that were successfully bred as gilts were settled when bred during the next breeding season.

_________________________points out that gilts which fail to conceive may have diseased ovaries or some other complication that makes them permanently useless as breeding stock. When such animals are held over another season, they eat up feed and take up housing and equipment that might otherwise be used for more productive swine.

There's still another reason why it pays to market gilts when they fail to conceive, he adds. Well-developed gilts will make excellent slaughter animals and usually bring a higher price on the market as gilts than they will 5 or 6 months later when they have passed their peak as market animals.

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155-42

February 5, 1942.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In All States:

No. 26-42

RELEASE: Immediate

KIND OF SILO INFLUENCED BY WAR DEMANDS FOR STEEL

________________ farmers who need extra silo capacity to expand livestock and dairy production for the war effort may have to depend on trench silos or other types that require little or no metal in construction because of the shortage of steel, says ________________.

The following tabulation, prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, shows the steel requirements of 100-ton silos of various types, roof not included:

Type of silo	Pounds of steel per ton capacity	Type of silo	Pounds of steel per ton capacity
Tower silos with steel reinforcing	8.5	Wire mesh fencing	4.5 to 6.5
Wooden Hoop	1.0	Snow fencing	2.0 to 2.5
Modified Wisconsin	0.8	Pit	3.7
Crib	2.45	Trench (lined and reinforced)	3.7
		Trench (unlined)	0.0

Farmers' Bulletin 1820, Silos: Types and Construction, describes all types mentioned. It may be obtained free from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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February 5, 1942

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In All States: No. 27-42

RELEASE: Immediate

UNANCHORED GRAIN BINS MAY GO WITH THE WIND

Thousands of bushels of small grains and shelled corn have been removed from storage on ____________ farms during the past few months, and hundreds of bins now standing empty may be severely damaged by spring windstorms unless they are securely anchored and otherwise protected, says ____________________. He points out that waste of metal and storage facilities from wind damage to bins cannot be afforded in wartime.

Structural engineers of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering say that bins more than 10 feet in diameter, especially if made of light-gauge metal, must be braced inside when empty to withstand wind pressure, and be firmly anchored to prevent shifting. Bolting empty bins to the foundation is seldom effective because strong winds may tear them loose.

__________________ explains that bins may be tied from three directions with guy wires attached well above the upper half of bins of ordinary height. Each wire may be secured to a 2 by 4 bolted to the side of the bin with extra-large washers under bolt heads and nuts. This will help prevent the wire fastening from tearing loose. Lower end of the wire may be fastened to a stout "deadman" or post. Bins more than 12 feet high may need additional ties. When two or more bins are close together, they may be braced and tied together for extra support.

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February 6, 1942 (161-42)

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 4 - 1942

In All States.

No. 28-42

RELEASE: Immediate

PAYS TO BUY WHEAT FOR FEED IF AVAILABLE AT CORN PRICES

Bushel for bushel, wheat is worth about 10 percent more than corn as a feed for livestock, says ____________________, and ________________________ farmers who can buy Government-stored wheat at corn prices will be getting a bargain in feed.

On January 19 the Department of Agriculture offered to sell about 100 million bushels of wheat for feed to help livestock, dairy, and poultry producers attain Food-for-Freedom production goals. Disposal of substantial quantities of this Commodity Credit Corporation wheat will also help make additional storage space available for the 1942 grain crops.

Wheat has been selling lately in __________ (State or county) for about __________ cents per bushel, making it compare favorably with corn for feeding. Corn in ________________ (State or county) has been selling locally for around ______________ cents per bushel.

In comparing wheat with corn as a food for livestock, _________________ points out that a bushel of wheat contains 4 pounds more than a bushel of corn, that wheat contains about 3 percent more protein than corn, and is easily digested because of low fiber content. However, wheat, like corn, is not a complete livestock feed. It lacks sufficient lime and for some purposes it lacks sufficient phosphorus, certain vitamins, and some of the necessary proteins. Therefore, it is generally advisable to feed it along with a suitable protein and mineral supplement, similar to one used when the principal grain in the ration is corn.

Feeding wheat in combination with other grains also overcomes the principal objection some farmers have that wheat forms a pasty, sticky mass that may be unpalatable and hard to digest.

County agents or agricultural colleges can recommend good feed mixtures containing wheat.

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February 10, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 4 - 1942

In All States. No. 29-42

RELEASE: Immediately

MUSLIN FOR CHEESECLOTH

Tests by the U. S. Department of Agriculture at the Beltsville (Md.) Research Center show that used muslin feed bags, old bath towels, or newspapers may take the place of cheesecloth in fumigating incubators with formaldehyde for control of pullorum disease.

Many hatcherymen fumigate their hatcheries by hanging up cheesecloth soaked in formaldehyde solution. As the formaldehyde evaporates, the gas permeates the incubators killing pullorum disease germs. This year, because of the war, there is a shortage of cheesecloth for this purpose. Hatcherymen who are able to get new cheesecloth may use it for this purpose and those who have used cheesecloth may re-use it.

NEW SOW PREGNANCY TEST

A new, reliable sow pregnancy test developed by the University of Missouri in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture might be used by breeders of purebred swine who hold sales of bred gilts and sows. The test is made on a sample of the sow's urine collected by the breeder during either of two periods - between 22 and 32 days after breeding or any time following the 72d day of pregnancy. In many sales sows and gilts are sold with the guarantee that they are pregnant. After the sale has been made and the animal shipped to the buyer, she may fail to farrow and financial adjustments have to be made. At present the University of Missouri is making the tests for breeders in that State at cost.

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February 11, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In N. J., Va., Md., N. Y., Conn.,
Del., Ohio, Pa., W. Va.

No. 30-42

RELEASE: Immediate

LIST CROPS AND PLANTS JAP BEETLES DON'T LIKE

________________ Victory gardeners will be more likely to reap a successful harvest if they plant vegetables seldom attacked by the Japanese beetle, says ________________________________.

Most control measures used against other garden insects are quite ineffective against the Jap beetles, but certain crops may be planted with success even in areas of heavy infestation because the beetles rarely or never feed upon them.

_________________ lists the following garden crops as those seldom attacked: Cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, eggplant, lettuce, onion, parsley, pea, potato, radish, spinach, squash, sweetpotato, tomato, and turnip.

__________________ adds that ornamental planting about defense housing projects in Jap beetle areas should also be restricted to those kinds of plants relatively "immune" to attack. These include evergreens, forsythia, hydrangea, lilac, privet, rhododendron, and spirea.

Farmers' Bulletin 1856, and U.S.D.A. Circular 547, both available free from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., contain further information about which plants are subject to Japanese beetle attack and which are rarely eaten by this serious insect pest.

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February 12, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 4
AGRICULTURAL
U.S.

In Calif., Tex., and Fla.

No. 31-42

RELEASE: Immediate

DUSTING WITH CRYOLITE SAVES THE PEPPER CROP FROM WEEVILS

Applications of a cryolite dust mixture to fields of Mexican chili peppers, California chili peppers, and paprika peppers increased yields by approximately two-thirds of a ton per acre over untreated fields, and netted southern California pepper growers more than half a million dollars in increased income for their 1941 crop, says ______________________.

Entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture predicted serious infestation of pepper weevil early last season, and told growers how to combat the pest with frequent, regular applications of cryolite dust. Most of the southern California growers carried out the recommended control program, and about 3,500 acres were treated.

On the basis of increased yield of peppers harvested in fields treated with this insecticide as compared with yields from untreated fields (at current market prices), entomologists estimated that growers realized approximately $600,000 in extra profits as a result of the cryolite applications.

# # #

February 12, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In all States.

No. 32-42

Mar 5
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RELEASE: Immediate

STORAGE BATTERIES NEED SPECIAL ATTENTION NOW

With winter temperatures still ahead, cold weather protection for the tractor storage battery is important if the battery is to be kept serviceable, says________________________________. Keeping batteries in good shape is especially important this year because some of the materials used in their construction are needed for war industry production.

Engineers of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering point out that a discharged storage battery will freeze at slightly under 32 degrees F. with possible damage to the plates. Solution in fully charged batteries, however, will not freeze at much lower temperatures, but in zero weather they have less than one-half the starting capacity they have in summer. Maximum starting capacity is at 80 degrees F.

Because the battery has less starting capacity at low temperatures all starting mechanisms such as distributor points, spark plugs, ignition cables, and wiring should be in good condition in winter, and proper winter grades of lubricant and starting fuels should be used to make starting easy.

______________________ outlines detailed directions for care of batteries: Inspect battery terminals, clamps, and cable; if corroded, remove clamp from terminal and clean both carefully as electricity flows with difficulty through corroded terminals. An application of oil or grease on terminal and in clamp after cleaning will reduce further corrosion. Be sure clamps are carefully replaced on the terminal and securely tightened.

If power equipment is used only periodically, __________________ reminds farmers to make frequent checks of the battery because it loses a part of its charge every idle day, and if left idle over an extended period, the plates become sulphated, resulting frequently in permanent damage. He suggests keeping the battery water-level slightly above the top of the plates at all times, as the part of the plates not in contact with the battery liquid will get no charge and will become sulphated.

When water is added in freezing weather it may freeze and cause damage unless the battery receives some charge so that battery liquid and water mix. Only distilled water should be used, but clean rainwater is satisfactory.

______________________ suggests that dry batteries should not be discarded until checked by an authorized battery service man, because occasionally they can be reconditioned if too much of the plate surface has not been exposed very long.

He says that unless battery acid has been spilled or has leaked out through a cracked case, acid should never be added to make up for water. Amount of acid in a battery is not influenced by charging and discharging unless it has been filled so full with water that the mixture of water and acid bubbles out.

Farmers who have facilities for charging batteries in the farm shop might help their neighbors by reconditioning tractor batteries.

(more)

FILLER FOR EXTENSION EDITOR

________________ farmers who still have to build farrowing houses to take care of extra sows and gilts that will farrow this spring may get helpful suggestions from Farmers' Bulletin 1487, Practical Hog Houses, available free from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. The bulletin describes and illustrates how to build comfortable, sanitary quarters.

# # #

February 16, 1942.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

MAR

In All States.

No. 33-42

RELEASE: Immediate

SPRAY SUBSTITUTES

________________ fruit growers who face shortages of important spray materials this year will find that sulphur sprays can often be substituted for those containing coppera and other materials needed by war industries. So far, the outlook for copper sprays for 1942 is fairly good, but the situation may change later in the year, says ________________________.

Wherever sulphur sprays can be substituted for copper sprays, growers will find that it pays to do so, and helps the war effort by conserving copper. U. S. Department of Agriculture specialists point out that lime sulphur, for example, can be used instead of bordeaux and oil, now rather generally used in spraying peaches for scale and peach leaf curl. Sulphurs might also be used for after-harvest sprays on cherries, instead of bordeaux which has been used quite generally in recent years.

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February 12, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Wash., Oreg., Idaho,
Mont., Utah, and Colo.

No. 34-42

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AGRICULTURAL
ECONOMICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF A

RELEASE: Immediate

NEW CLOVERS PROMISE PROFITABLE CROP IN WEST

A good market awaits Western farmers who will have seed of the New Cumberland and Midland strains of red clover to sell this fall and next year, in the opinion of State and Federal agricultural workers. Because of their resistance to disease and good growth characteristics, the new strains produce more hay in the Corn Belt and adjoining States, where red clover is the most widely grown legume.

Western red clover strains are inferior to the new Cumberland and Midland varieties, when planted in the Eastern States. Eastern farmers want seed of the most productive disease-resistant strains to avoid waste and be more sure of a crop. Western growers are now turning to the new strains, in an effort to hold their markets for seed in the East.

With transportation of all types threatened with wartime bottlenecks, clover seed makes an ideal crop for Western farmers to ship East, as it has a relatively high value per pound or bushel. When grown for seed, red clover is especially good from the standpoint of conservation, as most of the plant is plowed back into the soil.

Farmers who plan to grow the new clovers for seed production this year should contact county agents and get full details of growing certified seed. It is impossible to identify the different varieties of red clover seed by appearance of the seed, so Eastern farmers are demanding certified seed. Stocks of Cumberland and Midland in the West are entirely in the hands of seed-improvement associations, organized by farmers who grow the seed.

# # #

February 16, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

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In Tex., La., Miss., Ark.,
Mo., Fla., Ga., S. C., and N. C.

No. 39-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FILLERS FOR EXTENSION EDITORS

In areas where carrying ability of open drainage ditches is greatly reduced by overgrowth of grasses and weeds, a reasonable degree of erosion control and control of undesirable vegetation can be assured if ditches are fenced and pastured. Willows, sawgrass, alligator grass, water hyacinths, and cattails cause most of the choking and filling of drainage ditches and are most difficult to control. Although some of these plants are not actually grazed by livestock, they are effectively controlled in shallow water and along well-shaped ditch banks by the trampling which occurs in closely grazed pasture, say specialists of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

* * * *

Objectives of hillculture research are: (1) To select hardy or adaptable plants that produce high-quality products on infertile hillsides; and (2) to develop a system of management that will control erosion and produce consistent yields and reasonable profits from steep lands. Hillculture research projects have been set up in five problem areas of the country, centering in Maryland, Alabama, Ohio, Iowa, and California; and are under supervision of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

February 26, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 4 - 1942
AGRICULTURAL

No. 40-42

In Ohio, Ill., Iowa, Kans.,
Mo., Minn., Ind.

RELEASE: Immediate

OIL PROTECTS SHELLED CORN FROM REINFESTATION

________________ farmers who fumigate shelled corn stored in metal bins can protect the grain from reinfestation by spraying the top surface with a light application of oil, says ________________________.

Entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station cooperating in the development of this method, recommend that oil be used at the rate of 2 quarts for each 1,000 bushels of stored corn. The oil should be either technical white or other refined oil having a viscosity of S.A.E. 10 or less, and be free from objectionable odors.

Using too much oil, or oil with a strong odor, is likely to lower the grade of the grain, and for this reason kerosene or waste oil should never be used. One good way to apply the oil, ________________________ explains, is at the time of fumigation in the last 2 gallons of fumigant, so that it forms a protective coating over a shallow surface layer of the grain.

________________________ reminds farmers that use of oil does not control insects infesting stored grain, but merely protects against reinfestation.

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February 26, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 4 - 194

In all States.

No. 41-42

RELEASE: Immediate

SOIL-SAVING TIPS

The life of an inch of topsoil was increased from 2 years to 29 years by contoured strip cropping of a field with a 5-percent slope in a soil-saving test carried on by the U. S. Department of Agriculture at its Blackland Station at Temple, Tex. These conservation practices reduced the rate of soil erosion from 1-acre inch in 2 years to 1-acre inch in 29 years, and results have indicated that this reduced rate of erosion can be offset by building up the yielding ability of terraced land with a good rotation.

February 26, 1942

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In Idaho, Oreg., Wash., Utah,
Colo., Mont., Wyo.

No. 42-42

RELEASE: Immediate

ROTENONE MIXTURE GIVES BEST PEA WEEVIL CONTROL

Results of field and laboratory experiments conducted by entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station during the last several years indicated that dust mixtures containing rotenone were more satisfactory than any other materials tested for pea-weevil control.

Large-scale tests conducted in 1941 show that growers may reduce the rotenone from the usual rate of 1 percent to 3/4 of 1 percent of the dust mixture when properly applied at the rate of 20 pounds an acre, without materially reducing control of the pea weevils.

March 3, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Ariz., Calif., Idaho, Mont.,
Nev., Oreg., Utah, and Wash.

No. 43-42

RELEASE: Immediate

ICC DECISION BENEFITS WOOL GROWERS

Wool growers will benefit from the recent decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission which permits railroads in Pacific and Mountain States to continue the practice of allowing 60-day free storage at terminals in wool-producing areas, according to a statement made today by Dr. Frederick V. Waugh, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The Department, through its Transportation Division in the Surplus Marketing Administration, had petitioned the ICC in the interests of wool growers in Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington to permit continuance of the storage privilege, the propriety of which was under investigation by ICC.

"The decision recognizes the reasonableness of allowing growers to accumulate enough wool so that they can enjoy full carload rates," said Dr. Waugh, who is Assistant Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Administration. "Furthermore, it contributes toward relieving the critical short position of transportation facilities by encouraging the maximum use of available freight-car space.

"Often sheep are sheared at points 50 to 75 miles, and greater distances, from terminals. Frequently small farmers must make several truck hauls over periods of several days in order to make up a carload. In most places throughout the area, carriers offer the only storage facilities available to sheep farmers. The Commission, by its decision, declined to withhold the 60-day free storage privilege which carriers have extended growers for 20 years in the interests of orderly wool marketing," Waugh said.

# \# \#

March 3, 1942

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In All States

No. 44-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARM MACHINERY

To prevent overloading the farm tractor, engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture remind farmers to adjust the size of their disks and disk plows to the power of their tractors. If less draft is desired, the width of cut may be reduced or one or more disks may be removed. In operating in hard ground, they say, weights should be used at the rear and front furrow wheels rather than on top of the frame or beam, where they cause excessive wear and strain on working parts.

* * * *

For best performance adjust disk scrapers so that they just miss touching the disk near the center, and with the wing a quarter inch from the disk surface.

* * * *

To keep the disk rolling, engineers of the Department of Agriculture suggest that wood bushings be replaced before they wear to a point where the bearing housing wears on the spool.

* * * *

When disking the land, don't forget to turn down grease cups several times each day. If pressure lubrication is used, be sure to wipe the fitting with a clean rag before applying the grease gun, say U. S. Department of Agriculture engineers. If no excess grease appears on the outside of the bearing, with continued application, the fitting or hole is probably clogged and should be given a good cleaning.

* * * *

March 3, 1942

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In Colo., Nebr., Wyo., Mont.,
S. Dak., Idaho, Utah.

No. 45-42

RELEASE: Immediate.

PHOSPHATE, MANURE COMBINATION BOOSTS YIELD OF SUGAR BEETS

______________________ sugar-beet growers can boost crop yields to help offset the national sugar shortage by using a newly proposed combination treatment of superphosphate and barnyard manure on their land says ______________________________.

Tests by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the irrigated sugar-beet district near Torrington, Wyo., show that a combination treatment of 150 pounds of treble superphosphate used with 6 tons of manure per acre, gave results equivalent to a 12-ton application of manure.

As the 4-year average in these tests, only 8 tons of sugar-beet roots per acre were produced when neither manure nor phosphate was used. When manure was applied at the rate of 12 tons per acre, yields jumped to nearly 14 tons. Using half this amount of manure, but supplementing it with phosphate, gave approximately the same yield.

Applying more than 12 tons of manure to the acre tends to produce beet roots lower in sugar. Using manure at lower rates is likely to cut yields. ______________________ points out that not enough livestock is kept on sugar-beet farms in irrigated districts to manure the entire beet acreage at the 12-ton rate, and that farmers generally apply less than this favorable amount. The tests show that such reductions in yield may be offset by applying 150 pounds of treble superphosphate, or its equivalent of superphosphate, with 6 tons of manure per acre.

The results of this test may apply to many medium to light textured soils.

March 4, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO
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United States Department of Agriculture

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In all States.

No. 46-42

RELEASE: Immediate

REPAIR OF SPRING AND SPIKE HARROWS

Before spending time on repairing a harrow, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture, a foresighted farmer makes sure it has suitable teeth and other optional equipment.

Details on keeping up these machines are provided by engineers of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering: Shoe runners worn through are no cause for discarding a spring-tooth harrow as new shoes are available at small cost. Better still, worn shoes may be repaired in the farm shop, as well as other parts of harrows. If the rod between the lever handle and the ratchet is bent, straightening will insure better depth control. Still better control is assured by having the quadrant and tooth bars secure to the frame. Dull teeth can be sharpened and when worn short should be replaced. Teeth with reversible points with which the more modern harrows are equipped have the advantage of always having one sharp point when the other becomes worn.

To adjust the depth of the teeth of a spring-tooth harrow so they will be uniform, the engineers recommend placing the harrow on a level floor with the lever set so they just touch the floor. The teeth should have a slight amount of tension; loosen the tension on the tight teeth and tighten the tension on the loose teeth. There is usually a slot for adjusting the set. All sections should be set with depth-adjusting lever in the same notch.

Where a sulky attachment is used make sure the seat connections are secure, that the operating levers are working freely, and that all other parts are right.

With spike-tooth harrows it is important to see that the teeth are sharp. If they have worn smooth, turn them so that a new cutting edge is presented to the front. If they have already been turned once, square the edges by grinding or replace with a new set. The teeth should be set at a uniform depth and clamped tight to the bar. Teeth can usually be adjusted for depth by loosening the nuts holding them to the cross member. Make sure that the frame is in good condition and secure, and that the depth-control lever is working properly. With flexible pipe-bar harrows, make sure the bars flex properly and there is no binding. With wood-bar harrows, inspect each bar carefully for splitting. Stregthen split bars by wrapping with wire or reinforce with bolts and washers. Decayed or badly worn members should be replaced. Where a harrow cart is used see that the seat connections are tight and that excessive wear in the wheels is taken up.

March 5, 1942

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

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In all States.

No. 47-42

RELEASE: Immediate

DISK AND SPIKE TOOTH HARROWS

To adjust depth of teeth on a spring tooth harrow so they will be uniform, engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture suggest that the harrow be placed on a level floor with the lever set so the teeth just touch the floor. Teeth should have a slight amount of tension; loosen tension on tight teeth and tighten it on the loose ones.

* * *

Worn teeth on a spike tooth harrow may be turned when worn smooth, so that a new cutting edge will be in position. Teeth that have been turned once may be resquared by grinding, or replaced.

* * *

March 3, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
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United States Department of Agriculture

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In all States.

No. 48-42

RELEASE: Immediate

CHICKS BOUGHT CLOSE TO HOME ARE MORE LIKELY TO SUCCEED

____________________ farmer-poultrymen can help relieve wartime transportation and at the same time fill their poultry houses with better birds more likely to live if they buy chicks this spring from reliable dealers near home, says ____________________.

Recently completed tests by poultry specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture show that not more than 60 hours should elapse between time of hatching and the time the chick is fed in the farmer's brooder house. Although 60 hours may seem like plenty of time even for a long-distance shipment, the average chick is about 24 hours old before it is moved from the incubator, leaving only 36 hours for transportation and handling.

If a batch of chicks is delayed in transit so that they are out of their eggs longer than 60 hours before the farmer gets them, many are likely to be dead on arrival, more will die soon after, and still more will be weak, stunted, and slower to reach egg-laying maturity.

____________________ points to still another reason for buying chicks nearby. The buyer has an opportunity to know more about a local hatchery, its reputation, and the quality of its chicks, than he does about a hatchery a hundred or more miles away.

One way to be certain that chicks are high in quality, free from pullorum disease, and from high-producing parents is to purchase them from U. S. Certified or U. S. Verified hatcheries, a list of which can be obtained from ____________________, county agent, or ____________________, extension poultryman at the State college.

March 5, 1942

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United States Department of Agriculture

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In Fla., Ga., Ala., Miss., La., Ark.,
Ohio, Ind., Ill., Mo., Iowa, Nebr.,
Kans., Okla., Tex.. N. Mex., Ariz., Calif., Oreg.

No. 49-42

RELEASE: Immediate

STOCKMEN CAN CHECK SCREWWORM SPREAD BY TREATING LIVESTOCK

Southern ranchmen and Middle West stockmen cooperatively can help protect the Nation's livestock population from screwworm infestation this year by killing all screwworms in animals shipped from infested areas to screwwormfree areas, says________________________. Screwworms cause an annual loss to the Nation's stockmen of more than $10,000,000, and this year it is more important than ever to reduce screwworm losses because of the wartime need for meats.

Entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture point out that screwworms are able to live over winter in this country only in southern California, southern Arizona, southern and southwestern Texas, and Florida.

When the weather warms up in spring, the fly stage of the screwworm gradually moves northward. If screwworm spread were confined to this natural migration, livestock in the more northern States would rarely be infested. However, during recent years the screwworm has been spread into the Corn Belt and as far north as Montana by traveling in the wounds of livestock shipped north from infested areas.

__________________ suggests that all animals shipped from screwworm-infested to screwworm-free areas be carefully examined for wounds, and that these be treated with Smear 62, the most effective treatment for killing worms in the wound, and protecting wounds from further infestation.

Upon arrival in screwworm-free areas, animals from infested areas should be examined carefully again, and wounds treated with Smear 62. This type of inspection and treatment at both ends of the trip would go a long way toward reducing loss by screwworms and prevent their spread to areas normally free of them, __________________ says.

Southern ranchmen who are short of labor this year should begin their war on screwworms as early as possible, because each female not killed in the spring may produce as many as 3,000 eggs and increase enormously the control job later in the year.

Smear 62 is made by several veterinary supply companies, or it may be made on the farm from directions in Circular E-540 of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarentine, available from State extension entomologists.

March 5, 1942

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EXCLUSIVE TO
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United States Department of Agriculture

In all States. No. 50-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARMERS CAN PROTECT POCKETBOOK BY LEARNING FERTILIZER RULING

The Office of Price Administration recently set price ceilings on mixed fertilizers, superphosphate, and potash, and ______________ farmers can take advantage of this price protection by learning how much their local fertilizer dealers can legally charge, says _________________, chairman of the County U.S.D.A. War Board.

Ceilings were ordered, effective February 27, as a precautionary measure to prevent inflationary advances of fertilizer prices at a time when farmers in many sections of the country will need fertilizers to meet Food-for-Freedom crop-production goals.

The order is of 60 days' duration and probably will be supplanted by a permanent regulation. The temporary order provides that the price of mixed fertilizers, superphosphate, and potash shall be no higher than:

(1) The list prices used by the manufacturer or dealer during the period between February 16 and February 21; or

(2) The average price charged by the manufacturer, agent, or dealer on the same kind of sales during this period; or

(3) If there is no such price list and no such sales were made, then the list price of others in the same locality.

This price order, ________________ points out, covers prices on all fertilizer sales of 250 pounds or more. It requires the granting of customary allowances or discounts for transportation, quantity, cash, etc. Prices lower than the maximum established by OPA may be charged.

(Over)

On the other hand, the order does permit the dealer to make customary extra charges if the purchaser desires special terms of payment, special delivery service, special containers, or other unusual services.

Farmers may get further information on this fertilizer price order from their county agent or other members of the U.S.D.A. County War Board. ________________ suggests they report any violations of the order to the local War Board.

The Office of Price Administration recently set price ceilings on mixed fertilizers, superphosphate, and potash, and ____________________ farmers can take advantage of this price protection by learning how much their local fertilizer dealers can legally charge, says _______________, chairman of the county U.S.D.A. War Board.

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This price order, __________________ points out, covers prices on all fertilizer sales of 250 pounds or more. It requires the granting of customary allowances or discounts for transportation, quantity, cash, etc. Prices lower than the maximum established by OPA may be charged.

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March 6, 1942

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 10

In All States No. 51-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FERTILIZER FILLER

The price control regulation on mixed fertilizers, superphosphate, and potash, issued February 27 by the Office of Price Administration, does not FIX prices. Instead, it merely puts ceilings on them to protect farmers from inflationary price advances.

* * * * *

Fertilizer prices can go no higher than they were during the period between February 16 and February 21, 1942, according to the recent price order set by OPA. The order is effective for 60 days, beginning February 27.

* * * * *

Before buying mixed fertilizer, superphosphate, or potash, the farmer should find out how much his dealer charged for these during the period between February 16 and February 21, 1942. This is important because fertilizer price ceilings recently set by OPA provide that prices shall not be higher now than they were during that period. For example, if a farmer wants a ton of 4-12-4 mixed fertilizer, he should not be charged more than the dealer charged for a ton of 4-12-4 between February 16 and February 21.

* * * * *

The OPA order setting ceilings on mixed fertilizers, superphosphate, and potash is for 60 days' duration and applies to fertilizer sales of 250 pounds or more.

* * * * *

Fertilizer dealers can charge no more for mixed fertilizers, superphosphate, and potash now than they did for these materials during the 5-day period, February 16-21 of this year, but they can make extra charges for special-delivery service, special containers, or other "specials" for which extra charges were made during the February 16-21 period. These extra charges, however, can be no greater now than they were during that 5-day period.

* * * * *

When farmers buy fertilizers this spring, they should check up on prices charged by their local dealer between February 16 and February 21, and then pay no more for fertilizers than they would have had to pay during that period. If the local dealer doesn't have a price list of prices charged during that period, the prices listed by other dealers in the locality for the same kinds of fertilizers should be charged.

* * * * *

Farmers who bought fertilizer before the recent fertilizer price ceiling order of OPA went into effect February 27, need pay no more for that fertilizer than price ceilings permit, if the fertilizer was bought for delivery after February 27, according to officials of the OPA and the Department of Agriculture.

* * * * *

(more)

The farmer who buys fertilizer "on time" from the local dealer can be charged a time charge no greater than that charged during the period between February 16 and February 21, under the rules of the fertilizer price ceiling order recently issued by OPA. If a dealer tries to charge a higher time charge now that ceilings have been placed on fertilizer prices, he will be violating the law because he will be getting more for his fertilizer than he did during the February 16-21 period under the same conditions of sale.

* * * * *

Fertilizer bought between February 27 and April 27, the period during which the present OPA fertilizer price ceiling order is in effect, must be sold at prices no higher than ceilings permit, even if sold for delivery after April 27.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 10 1942

In All States

No. 52-42

RELEASE: Immediate

RADIATOR ITEMS

Because of higher operating temperatures, tractors use more cooling water than automobiles and motor trucks, and failure to keep the radiator well filled is a common cause of overheating.

* * * *

Water leaks due to defective hose or hose connections, worn packing of the water pump, broken radiator, or a blowhole in the engine gasket are the most common causes of overheating in tractors.

* * * *

Sometimes a water leak through a blowhole in the main gasket of the tractor engine can be stopped merely by tightening the engine head; otherwise, the head must be removed and a new gasket used.

* * * *

Insects, dirt, and other material sucked up by the fan and lodged between the tubes and fins on the tractor radiator, interfere with cooling, and should be removed before going into the field. One good way to do this is to force the material out with water or air pressure from the back of the radiator.

* * * *

The fan and fan belt on a tractor engine should be in good shape to prevent overheating.

* * * *

Engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture suggest that farmers have an extra fan belt, hose, hose connections, pump packing, and other articles that may be needed for replacements during the working season, so that little time will be lost in making repairs if breakdown occurs in the field.

# # #

March 7, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In all States except Ariz., Calif.,
Idaho, Mont., Nev., Oreg., Utah,
Wash., and Wyo.

MAR

No. 53-42

GRAPES SPRAYED WITH BORDEAUX PRODUCE MORE AND BETTER FRUIT

___________________________ vineyard operators and home gardeners can boost fruit yields and quality if they spray their grape vines early this spring with a standard 4-4-50 bordeaux mixture, says _________________________. Although winter-pruning eliminates much disease-harboring old wood, reinfection is likely in spring unless vines are sprayed.

Black-rot, a fungus disease, is the most widespread disease of grapes in eastern grape-producing regions. It causes greater loss to grapes than all other diseases combined. If vines are not sprayed early, this fungus may first attack the young shoots and foliage, and build up a reservoir of spores which infect the fruit later in the season.

A new Farmer's Bulletin No. 1893 (available free from the U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C.) describes and illustrates disease and insects common in eastern states. Control in home vineyards is emphasized. Directions for preparing bordeaux mixture and other spray materials in large and small amounts and a table to indicate the approximate time for making spray applications are given.

It is recommended that sprays be applied as follows: (1) When the new shoots are 7 to 8 inches long; (2) about a week before the blooming period; (3) just after blossoms fall; (4) when berries are about the size of small peas; and (5) when fruit is about half grown. Diseases are more difficult to control in southern sections.

Bordeaux mixture is effective not only against black-rot but against other diseases. Insecticides can be combined with this spray for combating insects.

March 7, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

BUREAU OF
MAR 10 1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

In All States

No. 54-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARM ACCIDENTS ARE AID TO AXIS

The careless farmer who gets hurt in an accident this year is hurting the Nation's food production program as well as himself, says ______________________.

He points out that the National Safety Council rates agriculture the most hazardous industry in the United States with 4,200 accidental deaths during the last year on record. Other industries realize that accidents help the Axis by reducing productivity, and have developed successful accident prevention programs. Farmers likewise can contribute to the war effort by working out efficient safety programs for their own farms.

To help farmers reduce likelihood of accidents on their farms, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has just released a free publication entitled "Watch Your Step." It explains how many common farm accidents can be prevented. Request Miscellaneous Publication 481 from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Tractors and farm machinery are at the head of the farm-accident list. Many farmers tilling steep hillsides or working rough, rutted land are crushed by overturned tractors. Others are burned watering overheated radiators or refueling hot motors. Still others are crushed beneath tractor wheels. Many other farm machines and implements are equally dangerous, especially those in poor repair.

The publication points out that it's usually the "pet" bull that gores the farmer to death, because the farmer becomes careless when handling an animal that appears gentle. Many other farm accidents -- electric shocks and fires -- are caused by home-wiring or nonprofessional tampering with electrical equipment.

Accidents in the farm home are nearly as numerous as those in the barn or field, especially so in homes where there are very old folks or very young children. A well-equipped home medicine cabinet and a working knowledge of Red Cross first aid may make the difference between a happy ending or a fatal finish when a farm accident occurs, ____________________________ explains.

# # #

March 7, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 10 1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In all States.

No. 55-42

RELEASE: Immediate

ITEMS ON FARM-BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Farm buildings supported on wood posts frequently settle because of decay or the work of termites. Uneven settlement often is the cause of damage to wood framing.

****

To prevent uneven settling of farm buildings supported on wood posts, engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture suggest that the posts be treated against rot and insects, and set on masonry footings -- either stone slabs or concrete -- below the frost line. Posts used in repair of buildings should also be treated and set on masonry.

****

In jacking up a plastered farm building that has settled unevenly, engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture suggest that the jacking be very gradual and uniform to prevent the walls from cracking.

****

Building foundations that slope with a hillside are liable to shift, say engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Movement can be stopped by under-pinning so that the new footings are horizontal, like steps. These should extend below the frost line.

****

Engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture say that settlement of farm buildings is often caused by failure of field-stone foundations. Such foundations usually crack because the stones are small and there are too few bondstones extending through the wall. Round-shaped stones laid in poor lime mortar are particularly bad. Repairing the cracks will not remedy the condition; the worst parts of the wall must be rebuilt.

March 7, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 10 1942

In all States.

No. 56-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FARM REPAIRS SAVE REPAIRS ON FARMERS

Each year thousands of farmers are killed or injured in accidents on the farm. Many of these accidents, says ________________________ could have been prevented by a few hours of repair work.

Engineers of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering point out a few common causes of accidents that are easily removed by a man handy with tools: A loose floor board or stair tread may cause a serious injury - even a fatal fall. The few minutes required to repair such a hazardous condition could well be spared from even the most important farm work. Uneven and badly worn floors are dangerous too; also loose or broken handrails, especially at a steep stairway.

Weak or broken ladders about the place are the cause of many injuries. Going through ladders is more unlucky than walking under them. Stepladders are a special hazard because used so frequently and because they are not so simple as the stright ladder.

Broken window glass should be removed and badly worn sash cords, often factors in accidents, replaced.

A loose board or a door with a broken hinge can be picked up by the wind to do great damage. The farm shop usually has the equipment for such repairs, so they should be done as soon as noticed. Boards with nails in them left lying around are a frequent cause of serious accidents.

Sharpen the household tools, put them in a box that is easily carried, and start out on a repair cruise - a job of unusual importance now, __________ suggests.

March 7, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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United States Department of Agriculture

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In Washington and Oregon.

No. 57-42

RELEASE: Immediate

NEW RAIL RATES WILL SAVE MONEY FOR WOOL GROWERS

Western wool producers will save thousands of dollars annually as a result of new through rates to Atlantic seaboard points recently approved by eastern railroads, according to a statement made today by ______________, State extension director of ______________. Approval of the new lower rates followed closely on the heels of oral argument by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, representing grower interests, before carrier traffic committees.

"Agricultural marketing experts estimate that approximately $100,000 in transportation charges will be saved on wool grown in Washington and Oregon, where some 22 million pounds are produced annually. A substantial portion of this production is affected by the rate reductions which average about 50 cents a hundredweight for wool-in-grease in sacks, all rail. Growers at intermediate points who ship by rail to the East likewise will share benefits of the reduction," ______________ said.

______________ pointed out that the Transportation Division of the Department's Agricultural Marketing Service entered the case early in the year at the request of Washington and Oregon wool growers. The new rate of $2.33 a hundredweight represents reduction in rates now ranging from typical schedules of $2.71 at Spokane, and $2.84 at Portland. The case for the wool growers was argued at a public hearing of the Freight Traffic Managers Committee of the eastern lines in New York City, February 25. Shortly thereafter the new lower through rates of $2.33 a hundredweight were approved, effective from points in the West to Boston and other Atlantic seaboard destinations.

March 7, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In Colo., Nebr., Wyo., S. Dak., and Mont.
(some sections)

No. 58-42

RELEASE: Immediate

SUGAR BEETS PLANTED EARLY WILL PRODUCE BIGGER YIELDS

____________________ sugar beet growers, who have followed recommendations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to plant beets earlier than usual, have realized yield increases of from 2 to 3 tons per acre over beet growers planting later, says ______________________________.

Results of tests carried on for the past several years by the Bureau of Plant Industry in western Nebraska and eastern Wyoming indicate that in most years yields will be greater if beets are planted between March 20 and April 15 than if planted from April 15 to May 15 which has been the usual practice in those areas.

____________________ points out that early in the season there is likely to be enough moisture in the soil for good germination of the seed, but there may not be sufficient rainfall for good germination of seed planted after April 15. In years when rainfall is adequate for good germination, yields from beets planted early are generally not much greater than those from beets planted late.

There is some risk of frost injury to beets planted early in the season, but young beet plants are relatively frost-hardy except for a day or two when they first appear as seedlings. Also, the risk of having to replant because of frost damage is no greater than the risk of having to replant because of lack of soil moisture, ______________________________ explains.

Some growers report yield increases of as much as 10 tons per acre as a result of extra-early planting.

March 14, 1942.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In all States. No. 59-42

RELEASE: Immediate

WOOL-BLIND SHEEP ARE LESS EFFICIENT WOOL PRODUCERS

Because woolly-faced sheep generally bear no more fleece than open-faced sheep, and because they produce fewer pounds of lamb per ewe, __________ sheepmen can boost wool and meat production by breeding "wool blindness" out of their sheep, says ____________________.

Data on lifetime lamb production of nearly 400 registered Rambouillet ewes born at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Western Sheep Breeding Laboratory, Dubois, Idaho, show that ewes with open faces produce about 8 1/2 pounds more lamb a year than ewes with covered faces (wool blind).

Although most sheepmen are aware of disadvantages of wool blindness -- that wool blind sheep are more likely to be lost from the flock, are more timid in the feed lot, and extra labor is needed to clip wool around eyes at least 2 or 3 times a year -- some continue to favor sheep with heavily wooled faces believing that these grow more total wool.

The Dubois, Idaho, tests, however, have shown that there is little or no relationship between face covering and unscoured and scoured fleece weight, fleece length fleece fineness, body weight, and neck folds.

Because open-faced parents generally produce open-faced lambs, ____________________ points out that it is relatively easy to breed wool blindness out of range sheep by breeding only open-faced parents.

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March 14, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In all States.

No. 60-42

★ MAR 23 1942 ★

RELEASE: Immediate.

ADJUST GRAIN DRILL TO SAVE SEED AND GET BETTER STAND

Adjusting the grain drill and fertilizer attachment for accurate distribution will save scarce seed and fertilizer and insure a better stand, says ____________________________. He points out that rate charts supplied by manufacturers do not always compensate for differences in size of seed and drillability of fertilizers, and therefore, the rate of application should be checked accurately before planting begins.

U. S. Department of Agriculture engineers outline this simple method of checking: (1) Jack up drill in working position; (2) fill hopper with grain; (3) place canvas under spouts to catch grain; (4) set feed adjustment of drill for desired rate of sowing; (5) tie a rag to a spoke of the ground wheel and turn, counting the revolutions (turn at about same speed it would actually turn when working); and (6) compare amount of seed actually sown with that in chart below.

Wheel revolutions per acre by size of drill with 48-inch ground wheels.

Size of drill (inches)	Revolutions per acre	Size of drill (inches)	Revolutions per acre
8 x 7	660	8 x 8	650
10 x 7	594	9 x 8	578
11 x 7	540	10 x 8	520
12 x 7	495	12 x 8	433
13 x 7	457	16 x 8	325
16 x 7	371	6 x 14	457

If there is a difference in the amounts, it can be corrected by changing the rate setting of the drill up or down within the range of adjustment of the implement. It is not necessary to sow an entire acre; one-tenth acre (29.7 revolutions of a 20 by 7-inch drill wheel, for example) or one-twentieth of an acre (32.5 revolutions of an 8 by 8-inch drill wheel) will do.

For greater accuracy wheel slippage of the drill should be taken into account, points out ________________________, but for all practical purposes, the method outlined above will give approximately correct results.

Fertilizer attachments on drills also should be tested for accuracy in distribution. In doing this, have the fertilizer free-flowing; that is, dry and with no lumps. Better screen it first. Catch the fertilizer in buckets instead of on a canvas; one bucket may serve several fertilizer spouts if they are wired together near the ends.

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March 17, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 25 1942

In Va., N. C., S. C., Ga., Fla.,
Ky., Tenn., Ala., Miss., and La.

No. 61-42

RELEASE: Immediate

NO CURE AVAILABLE FOR MIMOSA WILT DISEASE

When a mimosa tree is attacked by fusarium wilt it may as well be removed, because the fungus that causes the wilt works in the sapwood of the roots, stem, and branches and cannot be reached with fungicides, says ________________________.

Mimosa wilt is relatively new in the United States, and its origin still a mystery. Because it is as deadly as chestnut blight, white pine blister rust, Dutch elm disease, and persimmon wilt, scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture predict this tree may be entirely killed out in many parts of the South unless a control measure can be developed soon.

About 7 years ago mimosa trees began dying in wholesale quantities in Tryon, N. C. Their foliage wilted suddenly, and the outer sapwood showed a ring or partial ring of brown vessels near the bark. Plant pathologists easily isolated a fungus of the wilt-causing group of the genus Fusarium from the discolored tissue, and named the disease "mimosa wilt." Within 5 years the disease had been reported from 55 localities in the Southeast -- from Richmond, Va. to La Grange, Ga., and inland to the North Carolina mountains.

Infection seems to enter entirely from the soil into the roots, and moving infected mimosa trees or soil from one place to another may spread the disease. So far, scientists have found no effective treatment for soil or plants after infection is established.

________________________ suggested that home owners who have ornamental mimosa trees should sterilize all pruning tools to guard against the possibility of introducing the fungus from diseased to healthy trees, and should avoid moving either soil or trees from wilt-affected areas to other areas where mimosas are grown. Wherever the mimosa is a valuable shade tree, plans should be made to replace it with other ornamentals in case the disease appears.

March 17, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 23 1942

In All States.

No. 62-42

RELEASE: Immediate

DISINFECT SOIL IN POULTRY YARD TO PREVENT DISEASE

__________________ poultrymen who turn their new crop of pullets into a poultry yard occupied last season by a flock of old hens will be inviting an outbreak of disease unless they plow the yard or disinfect the soil, says __________________________.

When it is possible, _____________________ suggests that contaminated surface soil be plowed under, a good seedbed prepared, and a grass, legume, or small-grain crop planted. Otherwise, young birds may pick up disease when they scratch and peck at filthy surface soil.

With some poultry arrangements, however, plowing the poultry run is not always practical. But considerable protection from disease can be afforded young birds if the contaminated surface soil is thoroughly soaked with a strong disinfectant. A good disinfectant for this purpose can be made by dissolving a pound of commercial lye and 2½ pounds of water-slaked lime in 5½ gallons of water. About one-half gallon to a gallon of this solution is used per square yard of soil, depending upon the absorbent quality of the ground.

If soil is to be disinfected in this way, _____________ reminds poultrymen that it is important all refuse material be removed from the surface of the soil such as planks and old sacks, and these also disinfected or burned.

# # #

March 19, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 23 1942

In Fla., N. C., S. C., Ala.,
La., Miss., Tex., and Ga.

No. 63-42

RELEASE: Immediate

FIND NEW USE FOR EMPTY OIL CANS

Here's a new use for empty lubricating-oil cans at filling stations, says ______________________. They can be used to collect pine gum, source of turpentine and rosin, needed in ship building and other war industries.

Producers of naval stores have been asked to increase production to meet war needs, but because of the metal shortage they may find it increasingly difficult to obtain cups to collect the pine gum. However, a workman at the Naval Stores Research Station, operated by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering found a way to make over used oil cans into suitable collecting cups.

Top of the can is removed with a rotary can opener, holes are punched so it may be attached to the tree, the sides are cut with tin shears to form gutters and direct the flow of gum into the cans and to make them last longer the cans and gutters are cleaned of oil and painted.

The Bureau reports that the discarded oil cans collect gum that turns out high grade rosin, and if properly painted can be used 2 or 3 years. One thousand cans can be prepared in 53 hours, and 1,000 gutters in 34-1/2 hours. Estimates are, there will be enough discarded oil cans in the turpentine area to supply the need for cups at least for this year.

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March 19, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 23 1942

In Va., N. C., S. C., Tenn., La., Tex.,
Calif., Ga., Fla., Ala., Miss., Ark.,
Ky., Ariz., and N. Mex.

No. 64-42

RELEASE: Immediate

GOOD PEANUT GROWING METHODS WILL INSURE SUCCESSFUL CROP

______________________ farmers who plant their first crop of peanuts this spring to help offset the wartime shortage of fats and oils, can increase their chances for a successful harvest if they arm themselves with as much peanut-growing information as possible, says ___________________.

Experienced peanut growers know that poorly drained, sour soils cannot produce a good yield, nor can land that had been overrun with weeds the year before. Cowpeas, velvetbeans, sweetpotatoes, and potatoes are all good crops to follow with peanuts, but last year's corn or cotton field is generally less suitable because the stalks and stubble interfere with tillage unless plowed 8 or 9 inches deep.

Peanuts can provide much of their own nitrogen because they are a legume, but applications of phosphorus, potash, and lime or landplaster (gypsum) will generally pay with bigger yields.

Inexperienced peanut growers should use great care to avoid injury to the seed when shelling, _______________ says. If the skin of the kernel is broken, germination may be low and a poor stand will result.

Neighbors experienced in peanut growing, the county agent, State experiment station bulletin _______________ on peanut growing, and Farmers' Bulletin No. 1656, available from the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., can give helpful advice for a farmer growing peanuts for the first time.

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March 19, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 23 1942

In All States

No. 65-42

RELEASE: Immediate

PAPER TWINE IS BEST FOR TYING WOOL CLIPS

_______________ sheepmen can get a higher price for their wool crop if they tie the clips with paper twine, because wool buyers generally make a price discount on wool tied with binder twine or sisal, says _______________. Fibers of sisal and binder twine become caught in the wool and cause manufacturing difficulties and flaws in the finished cloth.

Price ceilings on scoured wool, effective since February 29, provide a deduction for wool tied with sisal or binder twine. The top price allowed for wool so tied is 10 cents a pound under the regular ceiling prices. Paper twine is recommended by the U. S. Department of Agriculture because few if any fragments are left in the wool, and these do not injure the finished product.

Buyers discriminate against too much of any kind of string, however, so passing the twine once around the fleece each way usually is sufficient.

For highest quality wool, __________ suggests that sheep be sheared only when the fleece is absolutely dry. Shearing should be done on a clean, smooth surface that is dry and free from litter; never on the ground. Dirty locks should be removed before shearing by "tagging." The heavy locks should be clipped from each animal and packed separately; never bundled in the fleece.

The fleece is more satisfactory, easier to tie and roll in, if removed from the animal unbroken. It should be rolled with flesh side out, folded in from the sides and ends, and then rolled from the tail to neck. Lofty or springy fleeces are preferred, so they should not be rolled too tightly. Each fleece should be tied separately.

With the United States needing every pound of wool for military and civilian consumption, it is patriotic as well as profitable for producers to take special care in the efficient preparation of the fleece, _______________ says. The 1942 production goal for wool is 490 million pounds, 105 percent of 1941 production.

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March 19, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In All States

MAR 23 1942

No. 66-42.

RELEASE: Immediate

ORDERLY HOUSE WRECKING WILL YIELD MUCH SALVAGE MATERIAL

Lumber, nails, sheet metal, hardware, plumbing, brick, and other sound building materials may be salvaged by proper wrecking of old buildings and used to help offset shortages when new farm structures are needed, says ______________.

U. S. Department of Agriculture engineers recommend a systematic plan of salvage wrecking in about this order: Remove windows and doors first; then plumbing fixtures so they will not be damaged by falling timbers; next the roof covering, followed by cornice and roof boards. Electric conduits and piping should be salvaged as soon as they can be reached.

Next, take off the side-wall covering and then take up the floors, prying boards loose with a bar or timber at one end and working toward the other. Where possible, knock on under side of siding or roof boards to loosen nails so they will protrude for pulling, and allow lumber to be removed with a minimum of damage.

Lath and plaster are next. If laths are to be used again, the engineers suggest they be removed carefully and nails taken out at once because they are dangerous. Of the framing that remains, rafters come down first, then ceiling joists, second-story studs, second-floor joists, first-floor studs, and first-floor joists, in the case of a two-story house.

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March 19, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In All States No. 67-42.

MAR 23 1942

RELEASE: Immediate

USED MATERIAL CAN BE USED FOR NEW FARM CONSTRUCTION

Properly prepared and used, salvaged material can be of great importance in farm construction now that shortages of some building materials are becoming acute, says ________________________.

Farm structure engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering point to some ways salvage materials can be used. Stone and brick from old walls, well cleaned, are as suitable for use in building as new materials, but bats (pieces of brick) should not be used in chimneys or other places in the building where considerable strength is necessary. Sooty bricks are not suitable for walls to be painted, whitewashed, or plastered, but may be used for paving walks.

Because of a variation in size, old-dimension lumber should not be used with new material if straight, true surfaces are required, unless the old lumber is sized to correspond to the new. Cut off split ends of joists and rafters and use only the sound parts.

Old, straightened nails will do for nailing sheathing, even in hardwood, if the points are forced into soap or beeswax which may be kept in a small hole drilled in the end of a hammer.

Old sash usually require new glazier's points and putty. No new putty should be placed until the wood has been well primed with white lead and boiled linseed oil. Doors that have worn edges may be planed down or sawed as required, and loose or open joints repaired.

Rusted sheet metal, structural steel, and hardware should be sanded smooth and coated with red lead and raw linseed oil.

Nails should be removed from all usable lumber at once. These can be straightened and saved if not too badly rusted. Brick and stone are easily cleaned with an old hatchet or trowel if they were laid in lime mortar.

Salvaged lumber will go much further and so will nails if the walls of buildings are made of some form of masonry and the wood reserved for roof and floors.

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March 19, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

MAR 23 1942

In All States

No. 68-42

RELEASE: Immediate

DRAIN, SAVE ANTIFREEZE -- MAY BE SCARCE NEXT YEAR

Antifreeze solution for automobiles, tractors, and trucks may not be available next year because of war needs for chemicals used in their manufacture, so _______________ farmers will do well to drain radiators and save antifreeze for use next winter, says ______________________.

Antifreeze will keep well if stored in a cool place in airtight glass containers or stone jugs. Engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture suggest that the cooling system be flushed with clean water after draining and before refilling.

Farmers whose tractor tires are filled with water and antifreeze should drain this out, flush well, and refill with water. This antifreeze may be saved, too.

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March 19, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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In All States

No. 69-42

RELEASE: Immediate

ADVISE POULTRYMEN TO CULL OUT BUT NOT TO SELL OUT

Cull out but don't sell out is the advice of ____________________ to ________________ poultrymen who are wondering whether they should cull their flocks at a time when the Nation is asking for more eggs as war food. He points out that careful culling is still essential to conserve feedstuffs, step up efficiency of production, and insure greater net profits.

"Mediocre egg layers," says ________________, "'eat up' the profit of the high producers, and for this reason such birds must be marketed to get greatest profit from the farm flock. This is especially true when feed prices are high."

Good poultrymen have learned that there is nothing seasonable about culling. Instead of waiting for a particular season of the year to go through the hen house looking for "profit stealers," they get rid of nonproducers whenever they are found.

Experienced poultrymen can pick a good egg layer by the brightness of eye; full, bright-red, waxy comb and wattles; moist, dilated vent, and whiteness of shanks and beak on yellow-skinned varieties.

Inexperienced poultrymen can get help in culling from an experienced neighbor or the county agent, or from Circular ____________ of the ________________ College of Agriculture, or Farmers' Bulletin No. 1727 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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March 24, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

BUREAU
1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
DEPARTMENT OF

In Colo., Utah, N. Mex., Ariz.,
Nev., and W. Texas.

No. 70-42

RELEASE: Immediate

WHORLED MILKWEED MAY KILL STOCK AND YOUNG TURKEYS

A mouthful or two of whorled milkweed may kill a young turkey in a matter of hours, says ________________, so ___________________ turkey raisers had better eradicate the deadly plants from turkey range before turning the young birds out this spring.

Ranchmen have long known that whorled milkweed kills hundreds of cattle, sheep, and horses on the range every year, and have routed out the poisonous plant whenever it appeared, but recently whorled milkweed has been proved a killer of chickens and turkeys as well.

Tests by U. S. Department of Agriculture specialists show that young turkeys fed as little as one-seventh ounce of milkweed leaves for each pound of body weight go into spasms within an hour and usually die less than 5 hours after feeding. Immature, tender milkweed plants prevalent in spring seem to be more deadly than older weeds.

Generally, poultry and livestock will avoid whorled milkweed, but if other green feed is scarce, they will eat enough of it to cause death. Therefore, ____________________ suggests that livestock, and especially poultry, be supplied plenty of green feed, and that wherever practicable, whorled milkweed be destroyed.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In All States

No. 71-42

APR 1 1942

RELEASE: Immediate

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ISSUE NEW BULLETIN ON TREATING VEGETABLE SEED

__________________ home gardeners who treat vegetable seed before planting to protect against diseases will be more likely to harvest successful yields from their victory gardens, says __________________________.

Materials for seed treatment and methods of treating are outlined for home and commercial vegetable gardeners in a new Farmers' Bulletin, No. 1862, available from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

# # #

March 30, 1942

EXCLUSIVE TO
EXTENSION EDITORS

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture

APR 1

In All States:

No. 73-42

RELEASE: Immediate

ITEMS ON CATTLE AILMENTS

Watch out for green, flowering buckwheat. White cattle that eat it, frequently become very sensitive to sunlight. Skin about the head and ears becomes inflamed and swollen, often with blisters and scabs. Change of feed and protection from light rays are about the only remedies; prevention is better than cure.

* * * *

Leaves and tender stems of young larkspur are very poisonous to livestock in Spring. Cattle are most susceptible, so animals grazing areas where larkspur is growing should be watched closely for signs of poisoning.

* * * *

Spring clean-ups and paint-ups are especially valuable this year to keep farmsteads in good condition, but keep discarded paint cans and brushes out of the barnyard. Because many lead paints have a "sweetish" taste, cattle will lick freshly painted surfaces, old paint cans and brushes, and sometimes die of lead poisoning.

* * * *

April 2, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In All States.

No. 74-42

RELEASE: Immediate

PREVENTION OF CALF SCOURS MORE IMPORTANT THAN CURE

A couple of raw eggs or a cup of strong coffee may be helpful as supportive treatment for calf scours, but nowadays, when every calf counts in the Food-for-Freedom program, prevention is much more important than cure, says

___________________________.

Livestock specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture point out that calves fed damaged feed, sour milk from dirty cans, skim milk from a dirty creamery skim-milk vat, or skim milk hauled warm and exposed to the sun in unclean buckets may cause the disease. Exposure to early spring cold and dampness often lowers resistance of the calf, making it susceptible to scours.

Best prevention is to protect calves from cold and dampness, keep them in clean, disinfected stalls, provide clean milk and feed in clean buckets, and don't overfeed.

If diarrhea does develop, a couple of raw eggs or a cup of strong coffee will often provide relief. Services of a veterinarian are required for specific treatment.

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April 2, 1942

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
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In Va., N. Car., S. Car.,
Fla., Ga., and Md.

No. 76-42

RELEASE: Immediate

SCRAPE OR PLOW TOBACCO PLANT BEDS TO DESTROY FLEA BEETLES

Scraping, or plowing and harrowing old tobacco plant beds after transplanting to the field has been completed, will destroy thousands of flea beetle larvae and reduce injury to newly set plants, says ______________________.

Entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture point out that as the season advances, tobacco beds are preferred breeding grounds for flea beetles. Beetles that breed in these beds move to the newly set plants in the field where they feed on the leaves and lay large numbers of eggs in the soil near the tobacco plants. Tiny wormlike larvae hatch and feed on the roots. This movement of beetles from the plant beds continues as long as there are any plants left in the beds.

The usual shock of uprooting and transplanting, plus the double-barreled attack of flea beetles on leaves and roots, weakens the transplants, causes permanent stunting, and actually kills many of them.

Tests show that the best method to kill the flea beetle larvae in tobacco plant beds is to remove all tobacco plants, and then scrape the soil to a depth of 2 or 3 inches. Another good way is to plow and harrow the plant beds. Plowing alone is helpful, but many larvae are not killed.

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April 9, 1942

(447-42)

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In Md., Va.

RELEASE: Immediate

No. 77-42

BURN BROKEN BRANCHES TO CHECK DUTCH ELM DISEASE

Limbs and branches broken from elm trees by the recent heavy snowfall in __________________ must be gathered and burned immediately to prevent further spread of the Dutch elm disease, says __________________. Elm trees are one of the most important shade trees in the United States.

Entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture point out that Dutch elm disease is caused by a fungus carried from infected to healthy trees principally by elm bark beetles. Many of the broken branches contain hibernating bark beetles which will emerge as adults as the weather warms up during the coming weeks. If these "snow prunings" can be burned now, the beetles will be killed and spread of Dutch elm disease reduced.

Further information about elm bark beetles and Dutch elm disease is available in U. S. Department of Agriculture Leaflet No. 185, which can be had free from the Department in Washington, D. C.

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April 7, 1942

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No. 78-42

SUMMER FURNACE CARE

When ashes and soot remain in a furnace in summer, they absorb moisture and form an acid which attacks metal parts of the furnace, say engineers of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering. If the furnace is to be cleaned by a contractor with special vacuum cleaner, all caked soot from furnace and flue pipe should be first scraped off with a wire brush. After cleaning, doors, dampers, and other openings are left wide open to allow free circulation of air through the furnace.

- - - -

The U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering suggests that the main burner parts and operating machinery of oil and gas burning furnaces be cleaned well with a wire brush to reduce summer deterioration. Polished parts, however, should be wiped with a cloth to avoid scratching and coated with light lubricating grease for protection from air.

Shafting, fan blades, and similar machinery may be cleaned with a brush about as stiff as a toothbrush. If the burner is very sooty, it probably is not in proper adjustment, engineers point out. In such cases, it is well to have the flue gas analyzed and the heater adjusted before the fall heating season.

When furnace and its machinery have been thoroughly cleaned, doors, dampers, and vents should be opened wide for free air circulation. The oil supply tank should be kept full and the valve on the supply line shut off at the tank.

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April 13, 1942

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No. 79-42

RELEASE: Immediate

CONSERVATIVE GRAZING WILL PROTECT WESTERN RANGELAND

With livestock numbers in the 17 Western States now at an all-time peak, better all-around range management with special emphasis on conservative grazing will be the key to increased production of meat, hides, and wool for wartime needs, says ____________________.

He points to information received from W. R. Chapline, range research chief of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, who says that, at present, western ranges as a whole are fully stocked, and parts are overstocked. Increased yield of livestock products from range lands must therefore come largely through better range management.

Recommended range management involves conservative grazing, with numbers of livestock kept in balance with available forage. Other measures include using the range forage at suitable seasons and effective distribution of animals over the range, better care of animals, younger age of breeding herds, and the culling of animals of low productivity.

"Evidence developed through many years of range research by the Forest Service, shows that overstocking the range produces less meat than conservative stocking," Mr. Chapline says. As an example, he cites two groups of cattle that have been grazing in the Northern Great Plains for several years. A rather heavy degree of stocking on the range was the program for one of these herds - the other was grazed on a more conservative basis. The herd grazed conservatively not only produced more calves, but the calves at weaning time averaged 50 pounds more per cow.

"We must not make the same mistakes that were made in the last war," Mr. Chapline says, "that is, to increase numbers of livestock on our ranges with little regard to the range and sustained forage supply. Expected increase in production was not attained and many western ranges have not yet recovered from the damaging effects of overstocking."

Western ranges furnish forage on which calves and lambs are grown both for direct slaughter and for feed lots of the Nation, says __________________. From the range territory come about three-fourths of the wool and mohair supply, 55 percent (in live weight pounds) of the sheep and lambs, and one-third of the cattle and calves produced in the country. Thus, sustained forage production, and its wise use through better range management, is of immediate importance in our all-out war effort.

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RELEASE: Immediate

SANITATION WILL CHECK SPREAD OF COWPOX THROUGH DAIRY HERD

____________________ dairy farmers can help prevent the spread of cowpox through their herds by rigid sanitation and by milking infected animals last, says ____________________. Otherwise, cowpox blisters on teats and udders may be broken during milking and the disease carried on the hands or in milking machine teat cups to healthy cows.

Cowpox is relatively harmless, say dairy cattle specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, but if improperly handled, may lead to more serious complications. For example, if calves are allowed to suck infected cows, the blisters may grow and spread, and sores extend up into the teat. Garget may develop, and the whole quarter may be permanently damaged or lost.

Young cows are more susceptible to cowpox than older animals, and when at the habit-forming age, may become "kickers" unless milked very patiently when the teats are blistered and sore.

Mild, softening, antiseptic materials such as zinc oxide ointment or boric acid ointment may be used on ruptured blisters on teats. Material containing carbolic acid or cresol compounds, however, should not be used, as they are likely to cause severe irritation, and the milk may absorb their odors.

In persistent cases, it may be necessary to use a sterilized milking tube to prevent repeated breaking of blisters on the teats during milking.

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No. 81-42

RELEASE: Immediate

CHILDREN ARE GETTING BETTER SCHOOL LUNCHES

More than ______________________________ school children in
(Select from list on other side.)

_________________ were among the record-breaking number of 6,165,000 boys and
(State)

girls who ate free nourishing lunches at school during February, says

______________________________. Figures for March, usual peak month of community
(State Extension Director)

school lunch operation, are expected to show participation at an all-time high.

During February, farm foodstuffs were distributed free by the Agricultural Marketing Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to 92,907 schools located in every one of the 48 States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Figures for the month showed that more country than city children ate foods made available to schools under the program.

The list of foods supplied free by the Department varies from season to season and in different parts of the country. Included are many kinds of fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, fruit juices, dried fruits, evaporated and dry skim milk, meat, cereal foods, flour, lard, dried beans, butter and eggs, peanut butter, honey, and dehydrated soup. Local school lunch sponsors buy other foods to round out the menus.

Quantities of free foodstuffs are proportionate to the number of children in a school certified as needing better lunches. Sponsors must agree to certain regulations--continuing regular purchases of other foods, making no charge for the free food, and permitting no discrimination between children who pay and those who don't.

A new Farmers' Bulletin, No. 1899, describes the program in detail and tells just how a school can get these free lunches. Write to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for a copy. The title is "School Lunches in Country and City."

(Over)

Number of School Children Who Received School Lunches During February 1942

Alabama	72,080
Arizona	27,151
Arkansas	126,818
California	300,467
Colorado	38,610
Connecticut	31,583
Delaware	4,706
Florida	98,279
Georgia	513,056
Idaho	36,282
Illinois	138,943
Indiana	94,914
Iowa	74,798
Kansas	78,845
Kentucky	116,332
Louisiana	196,796
Maine	42,920
Maryland	22,154
Massachusetts	140,674
Michigan	181,613
Minnesota	184,516
Mississippi	324,119
Missouri	149,503
Montana	27,858
Nebraska	62,996
Nevada	3,538
New Hampshire	16,945
New Jersey	87,687
New Mexico	47,471
New York	324,194
North Carolina	221,242
North Dakota	81,190
Ohio	86,765
Oklahoma	246,094
Oregon	24,529
Pennsylvania	325,108
Rhode Island	2,616
South Carolina	329,206
South Dakota	59,578
Tennessee	297,694
Texas	370,414
Utah	37,703
Vermont	20,877
Virginia	107,858
Washington	98,169
West Virginia	83,899
Wisconsin	106,341
Wyoming	11,664

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SPECIAL SUMMER CARE FOR STEAM HEATING SYSTEM

Summertime care of the house steam-heating system will reduce need for repairs during the heating season, according to ________________.

Engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture point out that now is the time to drain and flush the boiler, and completely refill boiler, pipes, and radiators with water. To do this, vents at the highest points in the system are opened to permit escape of air. Keeping boiler, pipes, and radiator filled with water will reduce corrosion, and draining in fall will flush out the entire system.

When filling the heating system with water, ____________________ says it is a good idea to examine the air valves on radiators to detect leaks, or walls and floors may get wet. Pipe connections on the furnace may be inspected for corrosion, cleaned, and painted with asphaltum.

If all leaks are stopped and repairs made when needed, pipes and radiators of a steam-heating system may last as long as the rest of the house, __________________________ says.

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No. 84-42

RELEASE: Immediate

SUGGEST HOT WATER HEATING SYSTEM NOT BE DRAINED NOW

The farmhouse hot-water heating system should not be drained of old water and refilled with new for the summer, according to engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. They say that during the heating season much of the air in the water is driven off so that old water now in the system has little corrosive action on pipes. Fresh water, however, contains air that may cause considerable corrosion.

They give these additional tips for summer care of the farmhouse hot-water heating system: (1) Stop leaks and drain sediment from system; (2) inspect and clean all pipe connections to boiler, including those to gages and controls; (3) paint connections with asphaltum to prevent future rusting; (4) inspect, repair, and adjust all valves and controls; and (5) test check dampers to see if they work automatically and smoothly.

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April 9, 1942

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STOVE AND FURNACE PIPES SHOULD BE KEPT CLEAN, DRY

Smoke pipes on furnaces and stoves deteriorate more when idle than when in use, because moisture collects in soot in cool pipes forming metal-attacking acid, say engineers of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. They point out that smoke pipes of furnaces seldom rust out, but instead are destroyed by corrosion from this acid.

Summer deterioration of smoke pipes can be reduced by thorough cleaning, and otherwise preventing moisture from accumulating. When the furnace is in a damp basement, it may be advisable to store the pipe in the attic or other dry place. Wrapping with newspaper or painting both inside and outside of pipe with asphaltum will also protect from corrosion, according to the engineers.

If it is necessary to put the pipe back on the furnace after cleaning, doors, dampers, and openings in the furnace and pipe should be left wide open to assure free air circulation. Pipe of small heating stoves and the stoves themselves should be similarly cared for.

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April 9, 1942

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Southern Calif.

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SPREAD POISON BAIT TO KILL GARDEN CUTWORMS

Poisoned-bran bait, spread along garden rows the day the plants are set or when seedlings appear above ground, will help protect gardens from cutworms, says ____________________.

Cutworms live in the soil and are fat, smooth, brown larvae of a night-flying moth. Because they cut off garden plants right at the soil surface or just below it, spraying and dusting - the usual control measures for garden insects - are not effective against cutworms.

Entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture say that cutworms can be controlled in the garden, however, by spreading poisoned bran late in the evening just before the cutworms come out to feed. The bran can be broadcast at the rate of 10 or 15 pounds per acre, or about a pound to a plot 100 by 40 feet. If scattered along the rows a smaller quantity will be required. Two or three applications at 2-day intervals will protect the plants.

Poisoned-bran bait can be made by mixing one-quarter pound of white arsenic or paris green with 5 pounds of wheat bran and adding water until the mixture becomes a crumbly mass. Stir constantly as the water is added.

* * *

WARNING: White arsenic and paris green are very poisonous to man and animals, therefore, containers in which these materials are kept or stored should be plainly labeled and placed under lock and key. Any unused portions of the poisoned bran bait should be treated likewise as well as the receptacles in which they have been prepared. Be sure and wash the hands after handling the poison or the bait. Experience and careful observation have shown that if the poisoned bait is prepared and applied properly, its use will prevent a hazard to domestic animals or wild birds.

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Utah, Idaho, Calif., and Nebr.

RELEASE: Immediate

PAYS TO USE FERTILIZERS ON SUGAR BEETS THIS YEAR

Efficient use of fertilizer to increase yields of sugar beets this year should pay better returns than at any time in the last 10 years, says

____________________________.

With shortages threatening in some of the important fertilizer materials, it is now necessary to use fertilizers to best advantage. Experiments carried on by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with agricultural experiment stations in several beet-growing States show that best yields result from applying commercial fertilizers in bands slightly below and to the side of the seed. Many of the newer seed drills are now equipped to apply fertilizer in this manner.

Where it is necessary to use old drills that apply seed and fertilizer together, experience has shown that it pays to apply part of the fertilizer broadcast before planting, and then use not more than 200 pounds per acre at planting time.

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S. C., Va., Ky., and Tenn.

No. 88-42

RELEASE: Immediate

GROWERS ASSURED THAT SAW GINS CAN HANDLE LONG UPLAND COTTON

_____(State)_____ farmers who are hesitating to plant long-staple upland cotton this season because they fear inadequate ginning facilities are assured by _____(Name)_____ of the _____(State)_____ Extension Service, that long-staple upland cotton can be handled satisfactorily by the available saw gins.

"Although the Nation needs twice as much long-staple upland cotton as was planted in 1941, some growers are hesitant about planting it because they believe that all long cotton must be roller ginned, and they know that roller gins are not generally available in the upland Cotton Belt," he said.

"Roller gins are necessary for sea island and American-Egyptian cotton, but in the cases of American upland cotton of long and even extra long staple it has been proved that good saw ginning is far superior to roller ginning," he explained. Tests at the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory show that saw ginning of long-staple upland varieties is more efficient and results in better quality cotton.

Production of 1,400,000 bales of long-staple American upland cotton 1-1/8 to 1-1/4 inches in staple length--double the 1941 output of these lengths--is required this year for military needs, as well as greater amounts of cotton longer than 1-1/4 inch.

"Since saw gins can handle the long-staple upland cotton even better than roller gins--and with extra loan premiums to be paid for long-staple cotton this year--_____(State)_____ growers should go all-out in planting long-staple varieties," _____(Name)_____ said.

When upland cotton is roller ginned, considerably more foreign material, aborted seed motes, short fibers, and fuzz are added to the lint than in the case of saw ginning. This results in cotton of a lower grade.

Furthermore, long-staple upland cotton frequently contains discolored locks, and spots usually appear in the lint after roller ginning. In saw ginning, however, these spots disappear by mixing and diffusion. Upland cotton that is saw ginned also is smoother, it bales better, and has a higher spinning value, all of which makes for higher grades and better prices.

(Over)

"Some growers have continued to have their long-staple upland cotton ginned on roller gins, although this has resulted in a loss," ______(Name)______ pointed out. "Perhaps this has been because available saw ginning facilities have not been satisfactory. In these cases, inexpensive improvements in the equipment and improved practices would remedy the situation. It is up to the ginners to be prepared to properly handle this longer upland cotton."

Farmers and ginners desiring additional information on recommended ginning practices should get in touch with their State gin extension specialist at ______________________, or write to the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory at Stoneville, Miss.

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PROPER FEEDING GETS CALVES OFF TO GOOD START

Proper management of dairy calves with special attention to feeding during the first few days after birth, will get them off to a strong start and reduce calfhood mortality, says ____________________. Raising healthy calves is important for herd improvement because of the need for replacements when cows in the milking line drop out of production.

Livestock specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture suggest that the newborn calf be allowed to remain with its mother for the first 12 to 24 hours. During this time it will generally get all the first milk (colostrum) of the mother that it needs. This milk contains certain properties that protect the calf against disease and acts as a laxative to clean the digestive tract.

At the end of the 12- to 24-hour period, they suggest removing the calf to a separate pen and withholding milk for 24 hours. The calf will then be hungry and can be taught to drink from a pail more readily. At the end of this fasting period, a pint each of milk and limewater warmed to body temperature, is fed. (Limewater can be purchased at a drug store or mixed on the farm by adding as much lime -- quicklime or hydrated lime -- to a pint of water as will be dissolved).

About 12 hours later, regular feeding can begin, with the calf getting about 6 percent of its own weight in milk per day. At the end of the first week, and from then until the calf weighs about 150 pounds, it may be fed at the rate of 1 pound of milk a day for each 10 pounds of body weight. By the time the calf is about 50 days old it should be eating enough hay and calf meal so that feeding of whole milk can be discontinued.

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FARM SAFETY ITEMS

A tractor upset may cost a limb or a life, so don't forget that overturning is four times as likely when tractor speed is doubled. Be sure to go slow when working rough ground or along ditches.

* * * * *

Band saws cut through fingers as easy as they cut through wood.

* * * * *

Livestock rank second only to farm machinery as a cause of farm fatalities, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

* * * * *

Keep harness in good repair; one run-away can nullify years of training, ruin or injure a good team of horses, and injure or kill the driver

* * * * *

The so-called "pet" bull often is the killer. Handle even the gentlest bull with the greatest caution, and build a safekeeper bull pen for security.

* * * * *

Cleaning or repairing a well is no one-man job. A helper should always be outside the well in case the worker needs assistance in getting out.

* * * * *

"Poisoned air" may accumulate in the bottom of an old well or partly filled silo. For safety's sake, lower a lighted candle, lantern or a live chicken in first. If the light goes out or the chicken is killed, don't enter till ventilation is provided. Fresh air may be blown in by the blower on a silo filler.

* * * * *

When home canning this year, do a careful job; there isn't a more careful job you can do to save your life.

* * * * *

Rural electrification brings new hazards to the farm home along with its many blessings, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Miscellaneous Publication No. 481.

* * * * *

If wiring new electrical appliances, use approved materials, preferably according to specifications recommended by REA. Be sure your wiring complies with the requirements of the National Electrical Code, and with any State regulations that may be in force.

* * * * *

When you disconnect an appliance, pull the plug, not the cord.

* * * * *

Home-made controllers on electric fences may cost a life some day; your life.

* * * * *

About 3,500 persons are burned to death in fires on farms and in rural areas each year. About $200,000,000 -- approximately 2/3 of the national fire loss -- is the estimated cost of these fires, says Watch Your Step, Miscellaneous Publication No. 481 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

* * * * *

(Over)

Handle tools and knives carefully, says Watch Your Step, Miscellaneous Publication No. 481 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Be especially careful to keep them out of reach of children.

* * * * *

Agriculture is one of the most hazardous of all industries. More farmers were killed by accidents during the last year on record than construction workers, miners, or factory workers.

* * * * *

Don't forget that ladders slip easily on smooth floors or wet pavement. Have someone hold the ladder or nail pieces of old rubber to the foot.

* * * * *

Broken or rickety ladders are a liability; adequate repairs an asset, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

* * * * *

Watch out for ladders that lean against hay, grain, or other shifting material; they're dangerous, points out Miscellaneous Publication No. 481, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

* * * * *

Sunken water barrels, deep ditches, pits, wells, cellarways, and similar traps for the unwary should be railed off to prevent injury to man or farm animals.

* * * * *

If water or grease is spilled on linoleum on the kitchen floor, a slide or slip may make a dangerous fall.

* * * * *

Spring clean-up is a good thing, but if cleaning fluid is used, do the job out of doors.

# # # # #

TOMATO-WILT STAYS IN SOIL

Tests by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station indicate that it is not safe to plant tomatoes in soil where tomato bacterial wilt has occurred during the previous year. The wilt bacterium apparently lives over in the soil even during unusually severe winters.

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GREATER USE OF FUEL WOOD CAN HELP NATIONAL WAR EFFORT

Increased use of fuel wood from farm woodlands will help to release ships and railroad cars for transporting war materials, according to ________________. Farm woodland owners can assist in saving this transportation space by using fuel wood on the farm wherever feasible in place of coal and oil, and by supplying wood for similar use in towns and cities nearby.

Foresters advocate fuel-wood cutting according to plan to correct poor forest conditions resulting from mistakes of the past. Fuel wood can be obtained from misshapen trees, dead and insect-ridden trees, and other cull trees; from tops of trees cut for saw logs; and from suppressed or unthrifty trees cut in thinning or woodland improvement operations.

Trees suitable for lumber, veneer logs, box bolts, or other special products should not be taken for fuel, says ________________. The airplane industry needs large quantities of birch and maple veneer, oak is needed for ships, hickory and ash for handles, and lumber and pulpwood for other war industries. These products can be obtained only from well-informed trees, and cutting such trees for fuel is a waste of valuable resources.

Fuel wood can be harvested during slack periods on the farm, but some time must be allowed for seasoning. Cutting should also be planned to promote a better stand of thrifty growing timber by removing "wolf" and "weed" trees.

For seasoning, the wood should be stacked, not heaped, on bed pieces over dry ground, and preferably in an open yard to get greatest air circulation. Fuel wood burns more efficiently and yields much more heat when it has dried at least 6 months.

Although use of fuel wood has decreased steadily in the United States for more than 50 years, ____________________ says the quantity cut is still nearly half as great as it was at the peak, and second only to lumber as an item of commodity drain from the forest.

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Pa., S. Dak., Tex., Utah, Wash., Wis. Wyo.

No. 102-42

Release: Immediate.

BEET PULP IN CATTLE RATION REDUCES FEED-LOT TROUBLES

__________________ cattle feeders encountering bloat and other digestive troubles of cattle in the feed lot can get larger, more economical gains if they replace about half the barley in the ration with an equal amount of dried beet pulp, says ______________________. With sugar beet acreage expanded this year, it is expected that there will be more beet pulp available for feeding.

Seeking a good ration to reduce bloat, scouring, and "off-feed" conditions, livestock specialists at the U. S. Range Livestock Experiment Station, Miles City, Mont., fed cattle in one group a ration of 10.68 pounds of ground barley and 4.23 pounds of alfalfa hay, and cattle in another group 10.78 pounds of barley and dried beet pulp mixed, along with the same amount of alfalfa hay.

In the first year, 9 out of 15 steers in the first group bloated seriously and 11 of the 15 scoured and went off feed. None in the second group bloated or went off feed. Furthermore, replacing 50 percent of the barley with an equal amount of beet pulp lowered feed costs per 100 pounds of gain and increased profits.

The feeding trial was repeated with steers of similar age and breeding. These were divided into three groups and fed as in the first test, but with the third group full-fed the barley, beet pulp, and alfalfa ration. In this test all groups received 1 part linseed oil meal to 9 parts of concentrate.

As in the first test, the groups getting beet pulp along with barley did best, and the group on full feed best of all -- fewer feed-lot disorders, bigger gains, less feed per 100 pounds of gain, better finish, and bigger net returns.

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May 8, 1942

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EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Ala. Ark., Fla., Ga., Ill., Ind.,
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~~No. 103-42~~

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PASTURES HOLD AND ENRICH SOIL, AID IN WAR EFFORT

With __________ farmers directing their operations toward production for war needs, the development of good pastures and efficient pasture management assume greater importance than ever before, says ______________.

This means the production goals that depend on pastures -- such as dairy products, beef, wool, and mutton -- may prove as important in winning the war as the production of ships, planes, and guns.

For practical guidance of farmers in the Corn Belt and Cotton Belt, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued a new publication, "Pastures to Hold and Enrich the Soil" -- Farmers' Bulletin No. 1900 -- which details the use of various classes of land for pasture or meadow in the two regions. The publication is the joint work of A. T. Semple, head of the Pasture Section, Agronomy Division, Soil Conservation Service, and M. A. Hein, agronomist, of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

The publication points out that agriculture's goals can be reached through conservation farming that increases crop yields by protecting and building up the soils. The sod of good pastures protects the soil while it is being used for grazing, makes the soil more productive when it is broken to grow crops in rotation, and reduces erosion during tillage. Typical examples of conservation planning, involving the use of pastures, are taken from Corn Belt and Cotton Belt farms.

To supplement information in the bulletin, _____________ says detailed recommendations on seedbed preparation, seed mixtures, and fertilizer application can be obtained from ________________.

A free copy of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1900 may be obtained from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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606-42 May 13, 1942

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SCS MEASUREMENTS CONFIRM BLOWING LOSSES ON BARE LAND

The fact that cultivated land with no cover shows the greatest soil losses from wind erosion is confirmed by more than 16,000 soil measurements taken by Soil Conservation Service engineers and researchers on a 47,000-acre demonstration project in the Southern Great Plains, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Over a 3-year period, the readings showed other heavy blowing on dirt roads, areas infested with silver-leaved nightshade, poor stand wheat and milo maize. Corn, pea, and bean lands also were found highly susceptible to soil drift.

The SCS measurements were taken at 10-foot intervals across wide areas with varying cover conditions. In addition to 16,000 readings on the project, several thousand other measurements were taken in the same general area.

Measurements on cultivated land with no cover showed average soil losses of 2.98 inches, 2.04 inches, and .26 inch for the 3 years of the test. Wheat land showed an average gain of .64 inch the first year, with a good stand; an average loss of 2.16 inches the second year, with a failure; and an average loss of 1.2 inches the third year, with a poor to fair stand. Readings on milo maize showed average losses of .24, .24, and .34 inch for the 3 years. Land infested with silver-leaved nightshade registered losses of 2.24 and 2.88 inches the first 2 years, and a gain of .06 inch the third year. Land devoted to other uses showed varying degrees of losses and soil accumulations.

The consistent tendency of milo maize to lose soil is probably due to the fact that the crop is grown for grain and as a result is not planted as thickly as sorghums for forage. When the thickness of planting can be controlled, milo maize compares very favorably with other sorghums in preventing erosion.

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639-42

May 19, 1942

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"PARITY" IS FANCY WORD, STANDS FOR FAIR BALANCE

The term "parity" has, in recent years, edged its way into everyday language, yet relatively few people can explain what it means, says ____________.

Most folks who read the papers know, of course, that "parity prices" and "parity income" stand for "more" for farmers, but could they say how much more, or how parity is measured? The chances are most of them could not.

The term "parity" until recent years was "economist's talk" -- fancy language and rather technical. Only in the past decade has it been passed around in average conversation, due to the fact that it has figured prominently in national farm news.

In a broad, general sense, parity means fairness. One thing is on a "par" with another when they're in fair balance. In other words, farmers get parity when they get prices and incomes in fair balance with what everybody else gets.

The law under which farmers run their national farm program gives the term a specific meaning. In substance, it defines parity as follows:

It is a price for the farmer's product which will give it an exchange value, for things the farmer needs to buy, equivalent to the exchange value it had in a specified base period. The base period specified for most crops is the 5 years before the first World War, 1909-14. During that time farm prices were considered about on a "par" with other prices and incomes.

The legal definition for parity, with qualifications and amendments, is the formula -- to average folks a pretty complicated formula -- for working out the parity price of a farm product today. Working this formula is a job for the economists and statisticians who have the technical knowledge for such calculations. However, any person who remembers what he could buy with a bushel of wheat or bale of cotton back in 1909-14, has a fairly good idea of what parity for his wheat and cotton should be today.

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May 27, 1942.

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HORMONE SPRAY REDUCES LOSS FROM PREHARVEST APPLE DROP

Reports of tests in various parts of the country indicating that preharvest drop of apples is being successfully controlled by use of the new hormone spray are of interest to ________________ apple growers, says ______________.

Preharvest drop often forces growers to harvest some varieties of apples before they attain satisfactory color and maturity.

Two chemical compounds, with the jawbreaking names of naphthaleneacetic acid and naphthaleneacetamide, were first found outstandingly effective in reducing preharvest drop in tests by the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in 1939. These substances, generally classified as plant hormones or plant growth substances, since that time have been widely tested by State agricultural experiment stations and commercial growers. Several commercial preparations containing the hormone are now on the market.

The hormone spray was used on about 20 to 30 thousand acres of apples in 1940, the first year of its commercial use, and on a larger acreage in 1941. The greatest success generally has been with summer varieties. With the Williams variety, reports the Bureau of Plant Industry, results have been almost phenomenal, sprayed trees dropping less than 2 percent of their crop, while unsprayed trees dropped 30 to 50 percent. Among fall varieties, results with the Delicious probably have been most outstanding. In the Wenatchee district of the Northwest, more than 2,000 acres of this variety were sprayed. Packing-shed records indicated that hormone-sprayed fruit advanced a full grade over unsprayed lots because of increased color. Under Eastern conditions success with the spray on this variety also has been outstanding.

With late-fall varieties such as Winesap, Stayman Winesap, and Rome Beauty, results have been variable but generally satisfactory. Some failures have been noted, but these probably were due to such factors as improper timing, inadequate coverage, cool temperatures during the drying period of the spray, or soil moisture shortage.

To get the best results, the spray should be applied just prior to or at the very beginning of the harvest drop, and when the temperature is above 75 degrees. Generally the spray becomes effective within 24 to 48 hours after application. To be most effective, the spray solution must have contact with the stem of the fruit. Heavily loaded trees should be sprayed from both the inside and the outside.

In its present form the hormone spray, if properly timed and thoroughly applied, will greatly reduce the loss from preharvest drop of apples.

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May 27, 1942

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REPORT ON HORSE SLEEPING SICKNESS REMINDS FARMERS TO VACCINATE EARLY

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Encephalomyelitis, or sleeping sickness of horses, has been gradually increasing in the United States during the last three years, according to a survey just published by the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

In the year 1941, the survey shows, more than 36,000 cases of the disease were reported from 34 States and 99 percent of these cases were west of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio Rivers.

The survey shows that most of the cases reported from these Western and Northern States were of the western type. This type of virus is fatal to horses in about 25 percent of the cases. The eastern type, which is fatal in nearly 90 percent of the cases, was diagnosed in only a few States. All cases included in the 1941 report occurred during the period from April through November. Usually the disease did not occur after the first killing frosts.

The best means of protecting horses against encephalomyelitis is by vaccination, according to veterinarians of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The immunity produced by vaccination will last for at least 6 months. The most desirable procedure, the report states, is to vaccinate a month or more before the disease usually appears in a locality. Two or more doses of the proper type vaccine should be administered intradermically by a veterinarian.

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May 27, 1942.

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CLEAN MILK ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS OF FOOD PROGRAM

Observance of simple rules for the production of milk that's sweet and clean, along with care in grading at the receiving plant, will make the efforts of ______________________________ dairymen 100 percent effective in the national Food-for-Freedom program, says ______________________________.

But failure to take necessary precautions in handling milk may seriously interfere with the success of the program in this State, he adds.

_______________ farmers have pledged to do their part in the 1942 production goal of 125 billion pounds of milk. How effective their contribution to the wartime food drive is going to be depends not only on how much they produce but also on the quality of the milk.

Much of the milk is needed for making cheese, evaporated milk, and powdered milk -- foods that are vital in wartime because they are nutritious and highly concentrated, and can be stored and shipped easily. But dairy farmers should remember that only clean and sweet milk will make these products of acceptable grade.

Too many producers in 1941 failed to take proper precautions in handling their milk and as result about 15 percent of the cheese offered for Government purchase was rejected. It was not satisfactory because the milk from which it was made was of poor quality.

To prevent milk losses from spoilage and improve the quality and flavor of milk, Mr. ______________ recommends that care be taken to keep cows healthy and clean; that the milk house be located so as to be free from dust and stable odors; that milkers wash their hands with soap and water and wear clean outer clothing for each milking; that all utensils be kept clean; and that proper cooling facilities be provided.

To obtain milk with good flavor it is pointed out that all highly flavored feeds, such as silage, should be given to the cows immediately after milking, not just before.

"With thousands of farmers shifting from the production and marketing of cream to the production and delivery of whole milk, it is of great importance for them to learn how to produce and market whole milk of unquestionable purity," says Mr. ______________.

"Buyers and graders at the processing plants have an increased responsibility as a result of these shifts in marketing methods, and also because many farmers are now selling milk for the first time."

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May 29, 1942

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DRUG FOR WORMS OF CHICKENS HELPS KEEP FLOCKS HEALTHY

In view of the importance of controlling poultry parasites as a means of keeping flocks healthy and stepping up wartime food production, _____________ directs attention of _______________ poultrymen to tests confirming the effectiveness and indicating the proper dosage of phenothiazine for removal of cecal worms of chickens.

The tests were recently made by investigators of the Bureau of Animal Industry, at the Beltsville (Md.) Research Center of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Varying doses of phenothiazine were administered to a flock of Rhode Island Red and White Leghorn chickens naturally infested with cecal worms.

The results showed that half-gram doses administered daily for 4 consecutive days were 99.8 percent effective in removal of the worms. Daily doses of 0.1 gram and 0.05 gram over the same period were 91.7 and 12.6 percent effective, respectively. The doses were administered in both capsule and tablet form.

Evidence from the tests indicated that phenothiazine apparently was not seriously harmful to the chickens. The drug was found to have no significant lethal effect on the unexpelled worms.

Phenothiazine is made from diphenylamine, a coal-tar derivative, and sulfur. Use of the drug for control of worms in chickens and other livestock and indications of its effectiveness as an insecticide for the control of several important crop insect pests have resulted from research of the last few years.

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May 29, 1942

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COTTON LEAF WORM ON SCHEDULE; CHECK BEING MADE OF ITS SPREAD

The cotton leaf worm, notorious pest from the tropics which in some past years has stripped the leaves from large acreages of ____________ cotton, arrived on the Texas border on schedule this year, and a check on its spread is being made, says ______________________________.

This worm does not survive the winter in the United States, but the moths fly in from tropical areas each season and the pest spreads northward through the Cotton Belt.

The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, reports the first cotton leaf worm received this year was collected near Matamoros, Mexico, a few miles south of the Rio Grande on April 14, the earliest date on record for the pest in or near the United States. The first leaf worms actually found in the United States this season came from Brownsville, Cameron County, Tex., on May 6. Nine days later, on May 15, a half-grown leaf worm was found 200 miles north of Brownsville in the northern part of Calhoun County, Tex.

There is no authentic record that the cotton leaf worm has ever made its appearance in the cottonfields of California, but each year it spreads to most of the other cotton-growing States and in some seasons defoliates large acreages. Last year the leaf worms were late. The first worms were found near Matamoros, Mexico, on May 17, and the first in this country were taken in Calhoun County, Tex., on June 6, 1941. During each of the preceding 7 years the leaf worms made their first appearance in Texas during May.

The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine and State agricultural experiment stations in the Cotton Belt are making a check on the spread of this pest and will be glad to receive any insects believed to be cotton leaf worms.

Mr. _____________ points out control measures for the cotton leaf worm usually are not necessary before June or July in southern Texas or August and September in most of the Belt. Fortunately, the leaf worm is easier to control than the other important cotton pests. Calcium arsenate or any of the arsenicals dusted or sprayed on the plants will control these insects. If any of these insecticides are used to control boll weevil or boll worm, the leaf worm will be controlled at the same time.

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May 29, 1942

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HOME AGENT OUTLINES WAYS TO SAVE FRUIT AND CONSERVE SUGAR

Although sugar is scarce, ________________ County home canners cannot afford to let fruit that can be canned or otherwise saved go to waste this year, ________________ county home demonstration agent, points out. In answering the following questions she explains the new system of rationing sugar for home canning and gives ways for making the best use of that sugar.

Q. How much sugar can I get for home canning?

A. You will get 1 pound of sugar for every 4 quarts of finished fruit you are putting up. You may can as much fruit as your family needs.

AND you may have an additional pound of sugar for each person in your family to make a small supply of jams and jellies and fruit butters.

Q. How do I apply for that sugar?

A. You apply to your rationing board for a certificate for sugar for home canning. With this certificate you can buy sugar at any store. Under exceptional circumstances, and at the discretion of the local rationing boards, application for sugar for canning may be handled by mail.

Q. How much fruit does it usually take to fill a quart?

A. Usually 7 to 8 apples; 8 to 10 peaches; 5 to 6 pears; 24 to 32 plums; 5 cups of berries, or 6 cups of cherries will fill a quart.

Q. How can I stretch the sugar I do get for canning?

A. Add a small amount of sugar to the fruit's own juices, instead of making the usual sugar sirup. Fruits naturally contain a great deal of water, and you can make best use of your sugar by sweetening this rather than by adding more water in the form of a sirup.

Heat the slightly sweetened fruit carefully in a sauce pan. This draws out the juices, shrinks the fruit, and drives out the air, making it possible to pack generous amounts of fruits in each jar. There should be enough juice to cover the fruit completely.

Honey may be used to replace up to one-half the sugar called for in canning, and corn sirup up to one-third.

(Over)

Fruit juices are not provided for in sugar-rationing allowances, but they may be bottled or put up in jars with little or no sugar. When sweet and tart juices are mixed together, no sugar is needed. Fruit for juice is processed at simmering rather than at boiling temperatures to keep the natural fruit flavors.

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May 29, 1942

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In Oklahoma and Texas

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CULTIVATION OF ALFALFA REDUCES GRASS AND WEEDS

Cultivation of alfalfa, especially on upland fields where thin stand and slow growth allow weeds to get a foothold, is helpful in reducing grass and weeds, says ____________________.

If the cultivation is carried out carefully and only when needed, Mr. ______________________ points out, it may be expected to improve the quality of the hay without serious damage to the stand.

When the alfalfa stand begins to thin out, grass and weeds usually come in to replace the alfalfa, and in certain seasons if the growth is slow after a cutting, some of the annual grasses may get a start. To reduce grass and weeds under these conditions, cultivation can be practiced to good advantage. As in the case of other crops, alfalfa should be cultivated only when cultivation is needed, and thin stands should be cultivated more than thicker stands.

Common implements for alfalfa cultivation are the disk, spring-tooth harrow, and alfalfa renovator, which is similar to the spring-tooth harrow except each tooth has a small shovel point. An implement that will do a good job of stirring the ground without injuring the plant is the best type. To do this the stirring parts should be flexible enough to allow them to slide by the plant and should not have a sharp cutting edge that would cut or split the crowns.

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(June 4, 1942)

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BLUE GRAMA PRODUCES MORE BEEF WITH CORRECT GRAZING

Blue grama, a dominant forage plant on southwestern ranges, does best when it is rested or grazed only lightly during the summer growing season, says ________________________. It can then be utilized to the proper point during the late fall, winter, or early spring.

The USDA Forest Service points out that blue grama has three outstanding reasons for its superiority. It provides excellent forage, is highly resistant to grazing and drought damage, and is an effective soil binder.

Conservative grazing of blue grama is recommended to produce more pounds of beef per acre in the Food-for-Freedom program, and more wool for military needs. Conservative stocking allows the rancher some leeway in handling his herd in case of severe drought, and allows more rapid recovery of the blue grama and other valuable forage plants after drought.

In addition to proper seasonal use, the Forest Service suggests that better utilization of forage be secured by more even livestock distribution over the range through herding, riding, and the proper location of salt and water.

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June 10, 1942

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ORCHARD SOILS ARE DAMAGED BY CONTINUOUS CLEAN CULTIVATION

Tests by soil scientists have shown that continuous clean cultivation of the soil for crop production on orchards results in undesirable changes in the chemical and physical properties of the soil, says ____________________.

For this reason, he points out, ______________ farmers should exercise special care in the management of their orchard lands to guard against undue soil deterioration and maintain productivity.

Studies reported by R. E. Stephenson, soil scientist of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, and C. E. Schuster, horticulturist of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, show that significant changes in the characteristics of orchard soils are closely connected with continuous cultivation and with the depletion of organic matter that goes with such cultivation.

They found that some cultivated orchard soils weighed 30 percent more than the same volume of similar noncultivated soils in grass sods. Soil in the cultivated areas was up to 80 percent less porous, because of loss of structure and running together. The best structure in old cultivated soils was usually found below the depth of cultivation, where porosity was relatively high, several percent greater than in the top layer of soil. In some cases the investigators found the immediate soil surface nearly sealed, causing water to stand in depressions several days after an irrigation.

Soils that have been under cultivation 50 to 75 years contain 30 to 40 percent less organic matter than similar soils uncultivated. This is accompanied by reduction in available nutrients. The increased use of commercial fertilizers, not only for orchards but for all crops, is evidence of increasing deterioration. Fertilizers applied only to correct chemical deficiencies will not maintain in soils the desirable physical properties for maximum production. When used to grow humus materials to help restore soil structure, fertilizers have their greatest value for soil improvement.

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PEDIGREE BREEDING ADVISED IN PRODUCING SMALL TURKEY

Breeding for the small, so-called "streamlined"turkey to fit the kitchenette facilities of city apartments and the needs of small families generally requires care to avoid decreasing the vigor of the stock, according to__________.

Undoubtedly, if runts were to be used the vigor and other desirable characteristics of the birds might be impaired, Mr. ________________says. Unless careful selection and breeding are followed, he does not believe______________ poultrymen should try to produce a small-type strain of turkey.

With pedigree breeding, he points out, there is little danger in selecting birds for small size because any tendency toward weakness can be weeded out as soon as it appears. Some of the smaller specimens are fully as vigorous as the larger ones, and these are selected as breeders.

Breeding experiments by the Bureau of Animal Industry at the Beltsville (Md.) Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture combined some genetically small strains such as the wild turkey and the White Austrian from Scotland with larger strains such as the standard-bred Bronze, White Hollands, and Blacks. These strains were crossed in various combinations, the result being a lot varying widely in body weight and other characteristics. First, only vigorous families (offspring from one hen) were retained, then vigorous-appearing individuals as nearly as possible of the desired small size were selected. The breeding males were given particular attention, as a small number of male birds represent one-half of the flock genetically; if these are of desired weight and have other desired characteristics, a large part of the breeder's job has been accomplished and more variability may be tolerated in the females.

Vigor of the stock, which is so improtant for the breeder to retain, means primarily: good egg production, good hatchability; even, fast growth resulting in early maturity; and good livability.

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June 11, 1942

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PROPER MAINTENANCE OF GINS CONSERVATION AID TO NATION

Gin operators can save time, labor, fuel, wear on machinery, and the quality of cotton by check-ups, proper adjustments, and repairs on gin equipment this summer, says ______________________.

Under wartime condtions, such savings are more important than ever before, he points out. Gins that run efficiently and without breakdown serve their communities better, and the time, labor, and fuel conserved as result of good maintenance practices are contributions to the country's fighting strength.

Experimental work at the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss., as reported by investigators of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering and the Agricultural Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, shows the importance of keeping gins in good condition.

For instance, it was found that gin brushes in poor condition, on the average, have cut the value of short-staple cotton 80 cents a bale, and of damp long staple, $1.50 a bale.

Replacements of worn brushes have decreased ginning time from 7 to 10 percent.

Air-blast nozzles improperly adjusted have caused losses of as much as $1 a bale on long-staple cotton and slowed down the ginning process 25 percent.

Information on approved maintenance practices for cotton-gin equipment may be obtained from ______________________.

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CHECK MOWER IN ADVANCE TO SAVE TIME AND LABOR

"Take care of your mower, and it will take care of your hay by finishing the job without a breakdown," says __________________.

Interruptions in the midst of harvesting hay, he points out, are wasteful of time and labor. To avoid such waste, especially at this critical period for farmers, and to sidestep the chance of damage to the crop while the mower is being fixed, advance check-ups and repairs are recommended.

Here are some tips on the care of the mower from the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Before haying or other work, jack up the mower wheels and try it out by hand. If everything apparently is operating properly, cut a little of some crop as a test. Stop at once if the mower does not run freely. The heating of any part is difinite indication that lubrication or adjustment is needed.

See that the knife cuts clean and even without choking and that the grass stick is adjusted to leave a clean path.

By far the greater part of mower trouble is with the cutter-bar assembly which should be inspected frequently. Keep all parts securely fastened, as a loose guard, for example, would bind the knife and probably cause serious breakage and delay. Moving parts should be lubricated little and often, except when operating on sandy soil; in that case lubrication should be done with caution, if at all, because of the abrasive action of sand.

After running into hidden rocks and stumps, always stop immediately. Replace any broken knife sections, straighten any bent guards, reset any knife clip that fails to hold the knife lightly in the guard, and restore the original lift to any bent guard lip to prevent clogging of the cutter-bar.

It is well to carry an extra knife. Each time a knife is changed, inspect it for straightness to forestall binding and undue wear. Sharp bends are best corrected on the anvil or by clamping in a vise. Twists can be straightened with a wrench. In changing knives make sure that the sections center in the guards at the end of the pitman stroke. See that the pitman connections are tight before making this test. Adjustments will differ somewhat with different mowers, and for this reason the service manual should be consulted.

Cutter-bar alinement should be checked, especially if there is indication of excessive draft or side draft. A properly adjusted cutter-bar will have its outer end set in advance of the inner end by about one-fourth inch for each foot of length. This "lead" is necessary to have the pitman and knife in a straight line when operating. The amount of lead and its adjustment varies with mowers and should be determined from the manufacturer's manual.

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CITES NEED FOR BETTER LOGGING, SAWMILL PRACTICES IN WARTIME

To make the most efficient use of available farm and forest labor, a number of labor-saving devices and improved practices, particularly in small logging and milling operation, could be used effectively in ______ forest work this year, says ____________________.

Such improvements not only would do the job with fewer workers and, in some cases free both men and equipment for other essential war work, but also would save timber as well, according to Mr. ________________.

For example, he points out, the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture estimates that improved sawmilling practices in the small mills could bring about savings of 10 to 30 percent in the amount of timber required to produce a given amount of finished lumber. Thus, less manpower and equipment would be needed to get out the logs to fill wartime orders.

Better selection of trees also could make an immediate contribution to the wartime need for efficient use of farm and forest labor. Besides helping to conserve timber resources in the long run, improved selection would mean higher yields per man hour of labor because trees ready for harvest are larger than those not ready. The Forest Service has found, for instance, that two 11-inch trees can be cut, peeled, and piled as pulpwood in half the time that it takes for the same operation on five 8-inch trees, although the wood volume is the same.

Technical advice on better logging practices and mill improvements may be obtained from ____________________________________.

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To all States.

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LOSSES FROM DISCOLORATION OF POTATOES MAY BE REDUCED

- - -

Losses from the darkening of skinned places on freshly harvested potatoes -- due both to discoloration, usually accompanied by surface depressions, and to decay in transit -- may be reduced by ________________ growers if they will avoid exposure of the potatoes to the sun after digging and protect them from drying wind, says ________________________.

This type of damage, often referred to as "scald," is not the same as sunscald, which is caused by prolonged exposure to hot sunshine and is often followed by infection with slimy soft rot.

Experiments by researches of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, on "new" Bliss Triumph potatoes under field conditions at Foley, Ala., and Meridian, Miss., definitely indicated that both sun and wind were factors in the "scald" discoloration damage. Serious injury was noted in an open shed where the potatoes were protected from the sun but exposed to a drying wind. Similar injury took place when the potatoes were exposed to the sun but protected from the wind.

Although in all cases discoloration and decay were more serious when potatoes were spread out, considerable injury, especially discoloration, sometimes occurred even though the potatoes were picked up and sacked immediately after digging, if the sacks were left in the field for some time. Potatoes in ordinary burlap bags showed about twice as much discoloration as those in washed burlap fertilizer sacks, which are more closely woven; however, about 10 percent became discolored in the tests even in fertilizer sacks.

Less discoloration occurred when the humidity could be kept relatively high, although some injury developed even under this condition when air movement or extremely high temperature increased the drying effect. Bruising did not produce a significant difference in the percentage of discoloration, but resulted in a significant increase in the percentage of decay.

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FIRE BLIGHT REPORTED FROM MANY APPLE DISTRICTS

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Reports of an unusually heavy outbreak of fire blight in apple and pear orchards have been coming in to ___________, extension horticulturist at ____________. The disease has been reported from most commercial apple districts from Indiana eastward.

Fire blight, a bacterial disease, attacts apples, pears, and quincies. It causes blossoms, leaves, and twigs of new growth to blacken and die. It is especially bad on several varieties of pears in the East but does not cause serious damage to apple trees except in years such as this when spring weather promotes a rapid succulent growth. Weather conditions also have been favorable to the rapid multiplication of the bacteria and their distribution by insects.

Many fruit growers have become alarmed over the rapid spread of blight this spring and are asking what they should do to control it.______ points out that there is nothing that the grower can do immediately. In the late summer each tree should be inspected carefully and all dead wood pruned out. At that time or during the winter careful inspection should be made for spots on large limbs or on the trunk of the tree where the blight has blackened small areas in the bark. These spots furnish the source of infection for the following spring and should be cut out. Another inspection should be made early next spring.

Where the disease has caused serious losses, spraying with a weak Bordeaux mixture when about 35 percent of the blossoms are open and again when about 65 percent are open often gives good control, but sometimes causes fruit russet by injuring the blossoms.

Scientists who have been studying the disease caution against pruning out the blighted wood immediately. It is better to let the disease run its course and prune out the dead wood in the late summer as there is less danger of spreading the infection at that time.

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NATION CAN USE ALL EGGS, EVEN IF GOAL IS EXCEEDED

Poultrymen are expected to exceed the 1942 egg production goal of 4.2 billion dozen eggs, but this Nation can use all the extra eggs produced this year, says ________________________.

More eggs this year must come largely from increased production obtained through better care and feeding. Most of the increase must come from from farm flocks in areas where the poultry industry is well established, and where there are adequate facilities for marketing and handling eggs at all seasons.

For late 1942 and for 1943 the indications are that there will be plenty of layers to meet increasing demands for eggs, and increased capacity for drying eggs for shipment to armed forces on foreign fronts and to the Allies. The greatest increase in requirements is for dried eggs, and the greatest increase in production is desirable in areas where drying facilities are available. Increases in other areas will go to supply home consumption.

When increased egg production was first requested April 3, 1941, by Secretary Wickard, egg-drying plant capacity was about 50 million pounds on the basis of year-round operation. Actually, the highest production up to that time was barely 11 million pounds. A program of expansion of egg-drying facilities, started last year, has now reached an annual capacity approaching 300 million pounds. More than 80 egg-drying plants, largely in the Mississippi Valley, are now in operation.

The task now, says ______________, is to see that present laying flocks, as well as the chicks that will be next year's layers, are cleanly and comfortably housed and adequately fed. Greater efficiency in egg production will mean more eggs, savings in labor and feed, and better income.

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AMPLE FEED SUPPLY FOR BIGGER POULTRY FLOCKS

American poultry producers are fortunate that an ample supply of feed is available for the increased number of birds being produced, says ____________________. The Ever-Normal Granary provides a reserve supply of grains that is being used to increase the production of high-protein feeds of both vegetable and animal origin.

The supply of certain vitamins necessary in a balanced poultry feed has been supplemented by substituting synthetic products for the natural sources formerly utilized. The price of some ingredients has increased, but the prices received for eggs and other poultry products has also risen so that the egg-feed ratio is favorable to the poultry producer.

Recent research by the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, has proved that the most-efficient egg production and the most-economical growth come when chickens are on full feed. One experiment showed that a cut in 25 percent of the food supply reduced egg production 50 percent. Generous feeding of a high-quality, well-balanced feed must be practiced to reach the egg-production goals set up for the war emergency in 1942. It is much cheaper for the Nation as a whole to obtain the extra eggs from a larger number of hens. To reach such a goal, poultry raisers have a slogan "Keep 'Em Fed." This applies to both quality of feeds. The last few pounds of properly balanced feed birds can be induced to consume are the most important pounds from a production standpoint.

"We have a progressive feed industry backed by skilled research workers in the experiment stations who are constantly making contributions to the knowledge of nutrition," says ____________________. "Our poultry raisers are urged to take advantage of this easily available information."

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CHECKING OF JOINTS ADVISED IN EMERGENCY GRAIN STORAGE

Where barns, haymows, corncribs, and other farm or village buildings are used for emergency grain storage, floor joints should be examined to make sure the space can carry the extra load, says ________________________.

If a haymow is used, wheat cannot be piled as high as hay because it is ten times heavier than loose hay or six times heavier than baled hay. The following table, from the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, U. S. Department of Agriculture, gives safe depths of wheat which floors with various joist spacings will support:

Size of joist in inches		2 x 8			2 x 10			2 x 12		
Span in feet		6	8	10	8	10	12	9	10	12
Depth of wheat in feet	Joists 24" apart	5	3	1 3/4	4½	3	2	5	4 1/2	3
	Joists 16" apart	7½	4½	2 3/4	6 3/4	4½	3	7½	6 3/4	4½
	Joints 12" apart	10	6	3½	9	6	4	10	9	6

Engineers recommend as a "margin of safety" the repair or replacement of all beams or joists which are split, cracked, or weakened by large knots, especially if the flaw is on the lower edge. They point out that walls built with 2 by 4 inch studs 12 inches apart will hold wheat 7 feet deep, but only 5 feet deep when studs are 2 feet apart; and that 2 by 6 inch studs spaced 12 inches apart will permit piling of grain 12 feet deep, but only 7 feet deep when studs are spaced 2 feet apart, provided the floor is strong enough. The depths given apply only when the framing is sound and when yellow pine, Douglas fir, or similar woods are used. Depths of grain on soft lumber such as cottonwood should be reduced one-third. For further information farmers should consult ________________________.

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LUNGWORM DISEASE OF CATTLE PREVENTABLE

Prevention of lungworm disease of cattle depends largely on management practices designed to protect calves of susceptible ages from exposure to the infective larvae of the worms, says ________________________.

The parasites are described as white, threadlike worms, 2 to 3 inches long, that inhabit the air passages of the lungs. These worms irritate the lungs, causing inflammation and a catarrhal condition. The infections are characterized by shallow, open-mouthed breathing, with the tongue protruding. Death may result from exhaustion or suffocation brought on by blockage of the air passages by worms and pus caused by secondary bacterial infection.

Dr. Dale A. Porter, associate parasitologist of the Auburn (Ala.) Animal Disease Research Laboratory, Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, advises against the use of low, wet pastures when the presence of the parasites is suspected. Even when well drained, permanent pastures should not be overstocked with young animals. Rotation of pastures should be practiced as often as space and forage permit. Resting a well-drained pasture for 6 weeks will usually allow the infective larvae to die out. To prevent contamination of pastures and exposure to susceptible animals, cattle harboring lungworms should be separated from the herd until they no longer show symptoms, a period usually ranging from 1 to 4 months.

Drug treatment for controlling lungworms thus far has been found to be ineffective. Dr. Porter advises, as the best treatment, moving the affected animals to clean, sanitary quarters and supplying liberal quantities of nutritious feed. It is advisable in all cases to obtain competent and professional advise, especially in dealing with serious infestations of lungworms. Severe cases are most frequently seen in cattle under 18 months of age.

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COTTON WAREHOUSES SUGGESTED FOR PEANUT, SOYBEAN STORAGE

A partial solution for the problem of inadequate storage space for crops such as peanuts and soybeans in the Southern States may be found in the use of cotton warehouses, says ______________________.

In some localities, he points out, there is actually a surplus of cotton storage space, and where problems develop in connection with the storage of peanuts and soybeans a canvass of cotton warehouse facilities is suggested. In view of the greatly expanded production of these two oil-bearing crops to meet wartime requirements of the Nation, additional storage space will be urgently needed in many communities.

The Agricultural Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, points out, however, that cotton warehousemen storing peanuts and soybeans should familiarize themselves with the behavior of these crops in storage, as they differ from cotton. Plenty of ventilation is necessary, and neither peanuts nor soybeans can be placed in warehouses and forgotten. Both must be thoroughly inspected to determine whether they are in storable condition, and then must be periodically examined for condition while in storage.

Further information on the care and inspection of stored crops may be obtained from ____.

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TAKE CARE OF PAINT BRUSH; MIGHT BE HARD TO REPLACE

If you plan to paint and find the old brush you put away in a can of water has dried out stiff as a board -- don't throw it away, not unless the bristles are broken. You might have difficulty these days in buying a new one, says ____________________.

The brush may be reclaimed by soaking it overnight in paint thinner, or if not too hard, in gasoline or turpentine, according to tips from the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, U. S. Department of Agriculture. After the old paint has softened, scrape it off with a putty knife or comb it out with a steel comb or brush. Repeat the treatment if the first soaking fails to remove all the paint. Shellac brushes should be cleaned with alcohol, and whitewash and calcimine brushes with water.

After cleaning out the worst of the accumulation, wash the brush in warm water with a mild laundry soap -- never with strong soaps. Thorough scrubbing is important. Shake out the excess water and let the brush dry in the air. Straighten out the bristles with a scrub brush or comb before drying is complete. Then wrap the brush -- not too tightly -- in heavy paper or cardboard to permit thorough drying and to keep the bristles straight. If the brush is dipped in paint again before being fully dried the trapped moisture will make it soft and lifeless.

When a brush is being used every day, fill it with paint and wrap it overnight in several thicknesses of paper, or suspend it in a can of water. If used intermittently, it may be suspended in raw linseed oil or kerosene; if stored in turpentine the brush is likely to become hard. Never let the brush rest on the ends of the bristles more than a few hours, or it will become warped and the flow of paint will be uneven. Bore a hole near the end of the handle and suspend the brush in the paint on a rod or wire resting across the top edges of the can so the bristles do not touch the bottom. When through painting, clean the brush, dry thoroughly, and store with bristles straight.

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FIRES ON FARMS

It is estimated that fires on farms in the United States take approximately 3,500 lives each year and destroy about $100,000,000 worth of property.

Eight principal causes of farm fires are: (1) Defective chimneys and flues, (2) sparks on combustible roofs, (3) lightning, (4) spontaneous combustion, (5) careless use of matches, smoking, (6) careless use of gasoline and kerosene, (7) defective and improperly installed stoves and furnaces, (8) faulty wiring and misuse of electric appliances. These cause 85 percent of the total losses from farm fires.

A chimney that becomes too hot to hold one's hand against should be carefully inspected and repaired by a reliable mason.

Properly installed and well-maintained lightning rods on farm buildings are practically 100 percent effective in preventing damage from lightning.

Thoroughly cure all hay. Undercured or damp hay when stored in large piles heats spontaneously. This heating may continue until the ignition temperature is reached and the hay bursts into flame. Even though a fire does not occur, heating destroys much of the feeding value. Alfalfa, clover, and soybean hays are most likely to heat serverely.

Even though hay has been well cured before storage, it will heat if it is wet by rain coming from a leaky roof or by floodwaters.

Frequent examinations should be made for several weeks after hay has been stored. "Steaming," strong irritating odors, and wet areas and flues are signs of dangerous heating. When hay is heating excessively, the entire lot should be removed from the barn, but first the heating areas should be thoroughly drenched with water. Make provisions for fighting a possible fire, as the hay may burst into flames when exposed to the air. Do not walk directly on the hay, especially at the center of the mow, as the interior may have charred and sunk. Transport the hay to an open space; it may ignite later.

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PICKERS AND GINNERS CAN HELP PRODUCE CLEAN LINTERS FOR WAR

Cotton pickers can hit a wartime blow for their country this year by trying extra hard to pick their cotton clean and dry, says ________________.

Ginners can also put a patriotic punch into their operations by using extra care to remove trash and dirt.

Here's the reason:

Cotton linters -- the residue of fibers removed from cottonseed after ginning -- are the source of the best quality of cellulose used in the manufacture of smokeless powder, with which the big guns of the Army and Navy are charged, and to make windows for bombers and fighting planes. Linters must be as free as possible of dirt and trash for the safest production of the best quality powder and only the most perfect character of linters is suitable plastic for bomber windows.

In wartime, ____________________ points out, time and chemicals must be conserved -- and both time and chemicals are required to remove foreign matter from linters. If the foreign matter is not removed, the resulting powder will have lower propellent power. Moreover, instances are on record in which foreign matter in linters has caused explosions in powder factories with loss of life, material, and time.

Here are some points to remember:

Cotton growers: Pick your cotton clean and dry. Dirt and trash and water in seed cotton lower the grade and value of your bale, increase the cost of transportation, and lower the value of the seed, and reduce the quantity and quality of the food products and munitions made from the seed.

Ginners: Dirt and trash in cottonseed cannot always be removed at the oil mills, and when not removed they get into the linters. Dirt and trash in linters used in making smokeless powder cannot always be removed during the purification process and, if not removed, some forms of such foreign matter may become a dangerous hazard and reduce the effectiveness of the powder produced. Gin carefully, make the best possible grade of cotton, and do not "skin the seed" for "higher outturn." Linters in cotton are a waste at the spinning mills but linters from the seed mean powder for our fighting forces and windows for our bumbers and fighter planes.

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SUMMER DAIRY SLUMP MAINLY DUE TO LACK OF GOOD FEED

Though ______________ farmers generally attribute much of the midsummer milk production slump to flies and hot weather, a study of dairy-herd-improvement association records from 12 States by the U. S. Department of Agriculture shows that the greatest production decline occurs when pastures fail. The principal cause for reduced output in July and August seems to be simply a lack of sufficient good feed, says __________________________.

The remedy obviously is to give cows more and better feed during "lean" months, such as temporary pastures of sweetclover, Sudan grass, alfalfa, or lespedeza. Many _______________ farmers, however, failed to fit a pasture "gapfuller" into their 1942 farm plans. ________________ reminds these dairymen that silage, hay, or a green soiling crop may be used to maintain summer milk flow almost as economically as certain kinds of temporary pasture.

In fact, use of harvested crops for midsummer feed actually proved less expensive than such annual pastures as soybeans and Sudan grass in comparative tests at the Beltsville (Md.) Research Center of the Department. Because crop yield, cost of production, and returns over cost depend so much upon the soil and climate, evidence at Beltsville favoring harvested crops over annual pastures as midsummer feed cannot be taken as a general indictment of annual pastures in every section, __________________ points out. Rather, these data indicate that under some conditions it may be profitable to feed cows harvested feeds in midsummer, if pasturage is unavailable.

Such a practice also is in line with the need for keeping dairy production at the highest possible level to meet Food-for-Freedom goals.

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WAR GREATLY INCREASES
FOREST FIRE DANGERS
IN __________ COUNTY

Increased danger from forest fires is one of the serious problems the war has brought ______________ County farmers and forest landowners, County Agent ______________________ points out.

Last year people who were careless started 170,000 fires in forests and farm woodlands and the loss was enough to buy two flying fortresses a day, he points out. This year we have the usual dangers from careless fires plus many wartime dangers such as bombs, arsonists, labor shortage, and the increased tempo of war work. The millions of feet of timber destroyed by fire is needed for war homes, army barracks, shipyards, and other war uses. Most of the equipment destroyed by fire cannot now be replaced.

The millions of hours of manpower it took to put out last year's forest and farm woodland fires are needed this year to produce food, tanks, planes, and ships for victory.

County Agent ____________________ and the farmers of _____________ County are cooperating with the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture and other agencies in a national wartime forest fire prevention campaign with the slogan "Careless matches aid the Axis."

(Over)

He urges farmers, forest landowners, and all who visit the forest to follow the following forest fire prevention creed:

I WILL smoke in the woods ONLY while halted in a safe place, completely cleared of dry or inflammable material.

I WILL break all burned matches in two before I throw them away, and WILL NEVER throw pipe tobacco, cigar butts, or cigarette stubs into brush, leaves, or pine needles.

I WILL scrape away all inflammable material before building a campfire, then build it in a hole dug in the center of this cleared space.

I WILL put out campfires before I leave - stir the coals while soaking them with water; wet the ground around the fire; make certain the last spark is dead.

I WILL NEVER burn brush in windy weather, or without plenty of help.

I WILL put out any small fires I find, or report them AT ONCE by telephoning the ranger or fire warden.

I WILL remember that a burning match, a glowing cigarette, or a smouldering campfire can be just as dangerous as an incendiary bomb --- that careless matches aid the Axis.

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SLUDGE-ACID SUPERPHOSPHATE GIVES GOOD RESULTS IN TESTS

Tests conducted by the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, have shown that superphosphate made with "sludge" acid, a byproduct from petroleum refining, produces about the same plant yields as superphosphate made from clear acid, says ________________________________.

This finding is of interest to ____________ farmers, he says, because there has been a marked prejudice against sludge-acid superphosphate in some localities.

Superphosphate is manufactured, ____________ points out, by mixing sulfuric acid with an approximately equal weight of finely ground phosphate rock. Clear acid ordinarily is used, but limited quantities of spent, or sludge acid from oil refineries are available in some places. The product made with sludge acid is darker than that made with clear acid and has the characteristic odor of the sludge material. Prejudice against sludge-acid superphosphate is attributed, for the most part, to its color and odor.

Although the quantity of sludge acid now available for superphosphate is not large, the demands of the war program for sulfuric acid for the production of explosives, steel, and other essential materials, and the consequent dislocations in supplies of acid, make it desirable that the fertilizer industry use spent and waste acids to the fullest possible extent. In addition to the relatively small amount of sludge acid available from oil refining, investigators of the Bureau of Plant Industry point out that large quantities of spent acid from the manufacture of the so-called alkylation fluid will likely be available in the near future. Experiments to determine the suitability of this acid for superphosphate are under way.

The plant-growth tests of sludge-acid superphosphate by BPI involved measurements of growth obtained from plantings of barley, millet, oats, and sorghum, with sludge-acid superphosphate added to the soil. Approximately the same growth was recorded for the sludge-acid product as for similar plantings with clear-acid superphosphate.

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FEED COSTS REDUCED WITH SOYBEAN MEAL

In view of the record production of soybean meal expected for 1942-43 and the strong demand for protein feeds in prospect, hog producers can lower feed costs and increase production by feeding large quantities of soybean meal, says ______________________________.

At present, he points out, soybean meal fed with a mineral mixture is a cheaper hog feed than tankage in practically all sections of the Corn Belt. The price of tankage is expected to continue at or near recently established ceilings during the next few months and probably into 1943. Soybean meal prices, on the other hand, are expected to remain comparatively low.

It has been figured out that corn fed to hogs in 1942-43 will exceed 1,300 million bushels. Enough tankage will be available to balance about one-sixth of this amount; the remaining five-sixths will be balanced with skim milk, soybean meal, and other proteins, or will be fed without protein supplement. If soybean meal is used as the protein supplement for one-fourth of this corn, about 1.5 million tons, or half the expected production in 1942-43 will be required.

When fed in a mixture with tankage and alfalfa meal, or when fed as the only protein supplement with an additional amount of mineral, as for example ground limestone alone or a mixture of equal parts of limestone, bone meal, and salt, experiments have shown that soybean meal compares very favorable with tankage for hogs over 75 pounds.

For each 100 pounds of soybean meal fed, about 30 to 35 pounds less corn is required than when the ration is supplemented with tankage. However, tankage is higher in mineral content, and about 5 or 6 pounds more mineral is required per 100 pounds of supplement when soybean meal is used. Only well-cooked soybean meal provides an adequate substitute for tankage in hog feeding. Raw soybeans or partially cooked soybean meal are much less desirable. Soybeans fed whole tend to produce soft pork, but this is not the case with soybean meal, since most of the oil has been extracted. In shifting to soybean meal, feeders should change the rations slowly and in accordance with recommended feeding practices.

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VARIETY OF HEDGE PLANTS SUITABLE FOR FARM USE

A variety of hedge plants may be grown on ____________ farms for fences and protective screens, as well as for ornamental purposes, says ____________.

In addition to their value in replacing fences and enclosing lawns, hedges sometimes are useful as screens to hide unsightly buildings and spaces. In shelterbelts they are used to protect farmsteads from winds and drifting snow; to protect gardens, orchards, and field crops; to cause snowdrifts to form where extra water is needed; and to reduce soil blowing.

_______________ suggests that plantings should be planned ahead and that hedge plants should be selected with great care to meet the needs of a particular farm. For the special purposes indicated, the species listed below have given the best results in tests over periods of from 15 to 20 years at the Northern Great Plains Field Station of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, at Mandan, N. Dak.

High screens or shelters: Green ash, boxelder, and Chinese elm.

Medium-high, general-purpose hedges: Common buckthorn, Siberian pea-tree, Russian olive, and Chinese lilac. The growing of common buckthorn is not recommended, however, because it is a host for crown rust of oats.

Dwarf to medium-high hedges for division lines: Peking contoneaster, Ribes diacanthum, and flowering plum.

Untrimmed hedges: Vanhoutte spirea, the rosea variety of Spiraea bumalda, and the Japanese barberry. Vanhoutte spirea may kill back following dry years but renews itself well. S. bumalda may die out in dry periods but does well where water can be supplied. The Japanese barberry seems to be hardy but not droughtresistant, being short-lived under dry-land conditions.

Planting should be done in the early spring, after the frost is out of the ground and before the plants begin to send out leaves. Good care in the first two years, with cutting back to induce bushiness and regular seasonal shearing therafter, contribute to the success of the planting. Futher information on planting material, handling and planting the stock, and care of the hedge, may be obtained from ________________________.

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July 23, 1942

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43 TYPES OF WOUNDS LEAD TO SCREWWORM INFESTATION

Livestock on ________________ farms and ranches can get screwworm-infested wounds in 43 different ways, many of which can be avoided by improved management practices and careful handling, says ________________________.

These findings are based on records of more than 6,000 screwworm cases in eight classes of livestock made by researchers of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in the Edwards Plateau region of Texas. The studies covered a period of about 4 years.

The most frequently infested man-made wounds are shear cuts, responsible for about 48 percent of the screwworm infestations in goats and 73 percent in kids, according to these records. Other man-made wounds leading to screwworm trouble are: Branding, castrating, dehorning, docking, earmarking, and registration tagging.

Danger from all these except shear cuts and registration tagging can be eliminated by timely breeding to confine such operations to fly-free periods. Infestations of shear cuts can be greatly reduced, if not eliminated, by shearing before screwworms appear and by applying a suitable wound protector when cuts occur. Reducing infestations in shear-cut sheep reduces the potential fly population later in the season. Sheep that are severely cut should be placed in a hospital trap and treated until the wounds are no longer vulnerable to flies. Longcomb shearing equipment leaving about three-eights inch of mohair should greatly reduce shear cuts in goats.

Wounds leading to screwworm infestation that may be eliminated are those in connection with birth and breeding, and from cockleburs, hog and dog bites, hooking, lice, prickly pears, and sore mouth. Those from birth are by far the most important, resulting in about 63 percent of the screwworm infestations in calves and about 8 percent in cattle. Wounds that may be eliminated in part are from boils, broken horns, horn flies, needlegrass, warts, and wire cuts. Wounds from needlegrass are outstanding in this group, causing about 35 percent of the screwworm infestation in lambs and about 27 percent in sheep. Some ranchmen have derived much benefit by extracting the seed pods of this grass, and wool that holds them, from the eye ducts of their sheep and lambs with blunt-tip forceps. Shearing all classes of sheep on the face and legs also gives relief from this grass.

Four types of wounds require aid of research veterinarians. Of these pinkeye is the most important, being responsible for about 18 percent of the screwworm attacks on lambs and about 6 percent on sheep.

Records of the researchers show 18 other wound factors involved in screwworm infestations that cannot be extensively controlled at present. The researchers pointed out, however, that screwworm flies that infest such wounds can be reduced in numbers.

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FARM WOMEN'S FLOCKS HELP WIN WAR WITH MORE EGGS

By increasing the egg production of their flocks above last year's production, many ______________ farm women and poultry producers are helping in the tremendous job of keeping an abundant supply of nourishing food flowing to American fighting men overseas and to our vitamin-short allies, says ________________.

A substantial part of this State's egg production, he points out, goes to central markets where large quantities of eggs are being purchased for military and Lend-Lease purposes.

Spurred by the Food-for-Freedom drive started last year by Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, ____________ increased its egg output from ______________ in the first 6 months of 1941 to ______________ in the same period this year.

To get all the eggs needed for Lend-Lease, Red Cross, and other purposes, the Agricultural Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, is now buying them at the rate of about 8 billion annually. This figure is about one-sixth of the Nation's 1942 production goal of more than 50 billion eggs.

The Agricultural Marketing Administration is purchasing a large part of the increased production in the form of dried eggs, now vitally important to reduce bulk and conserve cargo space in shipping food supplies through submarine-infested waters to European and Pacific outposts. The drying process reduces an egg to one-fourth of its original weight. A barrel of dried eggs is equal in food value to more than 6,000 shell eggs -- enough with the original water content restored to make a breakfast for a regiment of soldiers.

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(Figures on egg production by States on following page.)

Total Eggs Produced January to June, inclusive

	1941	1942
	(Millions)	
New Jersey	477	519
Pennsylvania	1,255	1,407
Ohio	1,378	1,503
Indiana	922	1,046
Illinois	1,241	1,431
Michigan	807	852
Wisconsin	1,018	1,187
Minnesota	1,350	1,690
Iowa	1,844	2,262
Missouri	1,352	1,595
North Dakota	244	325
South Dakota	398	545
Nebraska	782	1,007
Kansas	966	1,210
Virginia	510	594
Kentucky	531	691
Tennessee	491	581
Arkansas	376	452
Oklahoma	678	844
Texas	1,529	1,734
California	996	1,103

(BAE, General Crop Report, July 1, 1942)

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PROPER FEEDING NEEDED TO GAIN 1942 EGG GOAL

Proper feeding fo farm poultry flocks for the remainder of 1942 will be of importance in obtaining the eggs required to achieve the national production goal, says ______________, extension poultry specialist of ________________.

Although an attempt to increase feed consumption means additional work for the farmer during his busiest season, it is an effort that will pay dividends of more eggs from hens already producing and more eggs later from pullets now in the growing stage, ___________________ points out.

An average of nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounces of feed and 1-1/3 ounces of water are required for the production of an egg. This is in addition to the feed requirements necessary for the growth and maintenance of pullets and hens. Tests show that even a small reduction in feed means sharp curtailment in egg production. It has been shown at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Southwest Poultry Experiment Station, at Glendale, Ariz., that reducing the feed intake of one group of birds $12\frac{1}{2}$ percent caused production of eggs to be reduced 30 percent, while a group that received 25 percent less feed produced 50 percent fewer eggs. Production of both groups was compared with a group on full feed.

"The peak of egg production has passed in most of the larger producing areas," ______________ said, "but the last few months of 1942 are vitally important if our goal is to be reached.

"To continue production during the hot-weather months and also in the early fall, the farm flock operator should take every precaution in feeding. Proper feeding is always important, but never any more so than at present when laying stock of all ages should be well fed to enable them to lay at a fairly good rate while molting, and young stock should be allowed to grow as much as possible before egg production begins in order to reduce the number of small eggs."

Uncle Sam needs every egg that can be produced this year. At present, our requirements for 1942 for our own armed forces, for domestic use, and for our allies, include the vast quantities needed for drying, plus a safe margin, amount to nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ billion dozen. Of this quantity, fully 90 percent must be produced by farm flocks, and the remainder by commercial production.

Poultry scientists have developed a number of feed mixtures which have proved their worth for use during various seasons. These have been worked out from the standpoint of utilizing the feeds available in various States and localities and are obtainable through ___________________.

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PREMIUMS HIGHER THIS YEAR ON BETTER GRADES OF COTTON

Cotton growers of ______________ can increase their income and, at the same time, make a greater contribution to the job of winning the war by picking their cotton clean and turning out bales of better grade, says _______.

War requirements have shifted the demand heavily toward longer staple and higher grades of cotton, he points out, and as result longer lengths and better grades are bringing farmers higher premiums than last year.

"It's too late, of course, to do anything further to increase the staple length of this crop," Mr. ______________ says, "but farmers have an unusual opportunity to increase their returns by taking all practicable steps to insure a good grade of cotton."

It is pointed out by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, that on July 24 last year, a 500-pound gross weight bale of Middling 1-inch cotton at Memphis brought $8.25 more than a similar bale grading low Middling. This season, on July 24, the difference between the two grades had increased to $18.25. The premium on the better grade was $10 per bale more than in 1941.

The difference between Middling and low Middling grades of 1-1/16 inch cotton on July 24, 1941, was $9.25 per 500-pound gross weight bale at Memphis, and this had increased to a difference of $24.50 on July 24, 1942. On 1-1/8 inch cotton, the difference increased from $12.75 to $34 over the same period.

These increased premium values, which will be reflected to a considerable extent in local markets, will pay a substantial reward to farmers who take the care necessary in picking and handling their cotton to turn out the higher grades.

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SALVAGE DEAD ANIMALS FOR FATS

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Don't bury or burn Old Dobbin when he dies, says ____________. Fats are needed in waging war, and dead animals are not only an excellent source of fat, but also of glue, neat's foot oil, fertilizer, poultry feed, and other products.

____________ urges farmers who have dead animals to get in touch with the rendering plants in their locality. In case a renderer cannot be located, the local salvage committee or the county agent's office will know where to obtain the needed information.

Renderers in some parts of the country specializing in the collection of dead animals feel that considerable quantities of recoverable fat are being wasted in rural areas because such animals are not disposed of through rendering plants. Indicative of the waste is the report of a trucker to the General Salvage Section of the War Production Board, stating that on a 70-mile trip in a Southern State he saw a number of hogs killed by automobiles lying on the side of the highway in a decayed condition. These dead animals would have yielded a considerable quantity of fat if they had been handled by a rendering plant, the trucker pointed out

The War Production Board stresses the fact that a nation at war needs an adequate supply of fats. German resistance in the first World War was undermined by the cutting of Germany's normal supply of fats by the British blockade. Determined that such a shortage should not again hamper them, the Nazis started a fat salvage program as far back as 1937. Animal carcasses of all kinds were boiled to render fats. Conservation was strictly enforced, and up to the present, at least, lack of fats has not been reported as a vulnerable point in the Nazi war machine.

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FARMERS URGED TO SEED GRAIN WITHOUT NITROGEN

With more nitrogen needed for munitions and less shipping space to bring nitrate from South America, __________ farmers will have to get along with less commercial nitrogen than has been available in the past, says ________________.

For this reason, he says, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is asking farmers to seed their fall wheat, and other fall grains, without nitrogen. This will conserve the available supply for use on more urgently needed food crops.

It is estimated that the nitrogen supply for next year will be reduced about 20 percent. In view of this situation, each farmer can help by using his commercial nitrogen where it will do the most good. Crop specialists are generally agreed that a ton of nitrogen applied to vegetable crops, will do more toward winning the war than if applied to wheat. We already have a large reserve supply of wheat and an increase of wheat yields is not as important as increasing yields of other food crops needed to meet Food-for-Freedom goals. As a rule, lands in the Wheat Belt are fairly well supplied with nitrogen, and application of commercial nitrogen normally increases wheat yields an average of only about 3-1/2 bushels per acre. Sometimes nitrogen on grain barely pays for itself.

On the other hand, many of our fruit and vegetable crops are grown on land very low in available nitrogen. In the Southeast, for example, commercial nitrogen often means the difference between a good crop and a poor crop. It is desirable to use the nitrogen supplies as far as possible to produce extra yields of vegetables and certain other crops and to seed fall grains without nitrogen as one means of helping to win the war.

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